ADOPTED HAITIANS ARRIVE IN EUROPE, PG 14

Sports pg 18

Canucks clean up on Stars

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OUVER • WEEKEND, JANUARY 22-24, 2010
onews.ca

Celebrity pg 34

P. Diddy a proud doting papa

VPD sets up free email crime alert service

SAFETY The Vancouver Police Department has unveiled a free email crime alert service to update people about crime rates in their part of the city.

The Neighbourhood Crime Alert Service will be sent out every Thursday with statistics on crime in the recipient's neighbourhood and instructions on how to avoid being victims of those types of offences.

To sign up for the service visit vancouver.ca/police.

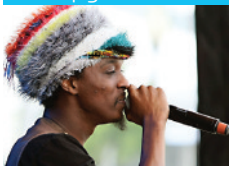
METRO VANCOUVER

News on the Move

What's this barcode for?

Learn how to scan the barcode with the instructions at the top of pg 3

Local pg 4



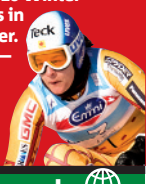
Cultural Olympiad begins

Vancouver Games

Countdown to 2010

Follow Metro as we bring you daily coverage leading up to the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver.

• Today — Brydon's last hurrah, page 20



On the web

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Torch returns

Relay begins final three weeks

JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Torchbearer and CFL B.C. Lions coach Wally Buono runs with the Olympic flame on its first leg in British Columbia in the Kicking Horse Pass, B.C., Thursday.

It was a modest scene in the midst of the grandeur of the snow-capped Rocky Mountains — a few dozen spectators stood by the side of the Trans-Canada Highway on Thursday and cheered as the Olympic flame crossed its last provincial boundary.

But for the Alberta political legend and the British Columbia sports hero who conducted the transfer, the emotion of the moment was as big as the peaks surrounding them at Kicking Horse Pass.

"When I was getting into the van, my stomach knotted up like it was the Grey Cup game," admitted Wally Buono, head coach of the B.C. Lions.

Former Alberta premier Peter Lougheed said passing the torch to Buono made him feel like he was handing the Olympic Games over to the people of British Columbia on behalf of all Albertans.

"It's really symbolic at this border right now," said Lougheed, 81, who walked most of his leg but could not resist breaking out into a trot for the last few metres.

As Alberta's premier in 1988, Lougheed helped bid for and organize the Calgary Winter Olympics.

"It's great we had our time, we had our Games in '88, and I think it's terrific that we now are passing the torch."

It was a special moment, too, for B.C. Premier Gordon Campbell, who was among the hearty group standing out in the middle of nowhere to mark the beginning of the torch's final three-week journey to Vancouver.

"This is a great event that is unifying Canada," he said. "I think actually it will be a great launching pad into the 21st century for us."

The torched moved from the isolated side of the road to a mob scene as excited residents of Golden, B.C. turned out to welcome it to the province.

"It's about time," laughed kindergarten teacher Ruth Finnie. "We've been waiting for it since it left."

The anticipation of the Games have transformed the kids in her class, she said. When they head to the local arena for skating lessons each week, they focus and are sure they're going to grow up to take Olympic gold for their country some day.

Sixteen-year-old Devon Turner said he was "stoked" by the feeling of community the torch brought to the community.

The flame will ignite the Olympic cauldron on Feb. 12, officially signalling the start of the 2010 Winter Games.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Long journey

- The torch set out from Victoria on Oct. 30 criss-crossing from cities to towns to rural and northern parts of Canada.
- In all, the torch relay has been set to last 106 days, making it the longest domestic relay, travelling 45,000 kilometres and including 12,000 torchbearers.
- It next heads down through the B.C. interior before moving north to Prince Rupert and travelling by ferry toward Vancouver.

Sexting course coming to B.C. schools in February

EDUCATION A new pilot program aims to teach teens about the birds and the bees of textual relations so they don't get stung by sexting.

TextED.ca, a website that launched Thursday, aims to teach adolescent youth the risks of sending nude photos or videos or sexual messages via texts.

A corresponding pilot course in 100 schools across the country, including B.C., will be launched at the beginning of February.

"This is an area that has been neglected," said Signy Arnason, director of Cybertip.ca, a program of the Canadian Centre for Child Protection.

"This is a substantial issue. You've got 100 million text messages being sent out everyday in Canada. The vast majority of those are kids texting."

The lessons, aimed at children in grades 7 and 8, use interactive comics and games to convey information about safe texting.

Arnason said B.C. classrooms would be involved in the pilot, but did not have specifics.

A spokesman for Surrey's school district said he didn't think Surrey schools were taking part, but could not say definitively until Monday.

A spokesman for Vancouver's school district did not return calls Thursday.

Tips received at cybertip.ca show that children are engaged in acts that "cross over into illegal activity," Arnason said. Sexual offenders also use the technology to develop relationships with young people.

Arnason said while texting can be fun, parents need to pay attention and teach their children about responsible use.

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Free Daily News Group Inc., operating as Metro Vancouver Newspapers 1190 Homer Street, Suite 250, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 2X6. Publisher: Maryse Lalonde

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ScanLife

Local

CN fined for not listing risky cargo

CN Rail has been fined $45,000 for running trains in Surrey without properly listing the dangerous cargo they carried. Last year, CN was fined $1.8 million after pleading guilty to two derailments in 2005, including one that caused a massive fish kill when sodium hydroxide was spilled into the Cheakamus River near Squamish.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Weather woes the norm for Winter Olympics: Historian

VANCOUVER 2010 **Games**

SNOW A U.S. historian who will be in Vancouver to chronicle the 2010 Games says weather woes consistently play a major role in almost every Winter Olympics.

David Wallechinsky says the balmy weather and lack of snow at the Cypress Mountain ski and snowboard venues reminds him of the 1964 Games in Innsbruck, Austria, where the military was recruited to carry in tonnes of snow to save the ski courses from warm winds and rain.

Wallechinsky, whose series The Complete Book of the Winter Olympics, is considered a Games bible, says the Austrians considered the Games a matter of national pride and didn't object to calling in the troops.

At Cypress, officials say they plan to truck and fly in snow from higher levels of the mountain and fortify the runs with straw and wood because so far, it's been too warm to make snow.

Wallechinsky says warm weather has confounded most other Winter Olympics, except perhaps the 1994 Games in Lillehammer, Norway, where conditions were excellent for athletes but frigid for spectators.

At the 1998 Games in Nagano, Japan, the problem was too much snow. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Job Search using Metro's Workopolis search at **metronews.ca/workopolis**

Video Controversial former NHLer Mike Danton addresses the media on his plans to play university hockey in Halifax at **metronews.ca/canada**

Blogs Kartik Krishnayer tells It's Called Football what to expect in the 2011 season and what he really thinks of Bob Lenarduzzi

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New streetcars hit the rails

Trams on loan from Brussels to run free of charge for 60 days

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

The deputy head of public transit in Brussels claims citizens applauded in the streets when the first of the city's new-generation streetcars were tested in 2003.

Two of those trams — albeit brand-spanking new from the Bombardier plant in Bruges — began service in Vancouver Thursday.

The first eager rider lined up at 4:30 a.m., and eventually there were several hundred in the line enjoying refreshments and listening to the Dal Richards' band by the time the train made its maiden voyage at 10:30 a.m.

Kris Lauwers, deputy general manager of STIB, Brussels' public-transportation company, congratulated the city for its "planned renaissance of streetcars."

The two Flexity streetcars, on loan from the City of Brussels, will run, free of charge, for the next 60 days along a 1.8-kilometre track between Granville Island and the Olympic Village Canada Line station.

Granville Island, a popular tourist destination, will be hopping during the Games as it hosts, among other things, a French carnival, a Swiss House and an Atlantic Canada House.

The trams will run every six to 10 minutes for 18 hours a day until March 21. They are expected to shuttle as many as half a million people during that two-month period.

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Top: Vancouver's new Olympic Line streetcar at the platform near the Olympic Village Canada Line station Thursday. Bottom: Politicians ride Vancouver's Olympic Line yesterday during the streetcar's maiden voyage from Granville Island to the Olympic Village Thursday.

The streetcars themselves are gold and grey and designed to reflect Brussels' Art Nouveau heritage.

Inside, they are entirely low floor and are outfitted with "noble" materials like wood, leather and stainless steel. The choice of such materials, Lauwers said, has reduced vandalism by 70 per cent, compared to older models.

Mayor Gregor Robertson, who clanged a bell to launch the tram, said it was a dark day in 1958 (before he was born) when streetcars disappeared from the city.

He said Vancouver was proud to be a partner in the demonstration project, the success of which could determine whether trams are brought back to the city post-Games.

Vancouver spent about $8.5 million to upgrade the existing right-of-way with new tracks and concrete ties. They were forced to hire extra security when thieves swiped some of the copper wiring.

Former sex-trade worker fights to take on laws

GREG DOWNS
for Metro Vancouver

COURT A former sex-trade worker argued on Thursday she deserves a day in court to fight for the safety of women actively involved in her old line of work.

The B.C. Court of Appeal finishes hearing Sheryl Kiselbach's arguments Friday.

Kiselbach wants the right to challenge B.C.'s prostitution laws after her first attempt was denied in 2008 because no active sex worker was willing to go to court.

"What we want is to have this really important human-rights case to happen without putting sex workers at further risk."
Lawyer Katrina Pacey

"I feel I have the right, even though I'm out of sex work, to be an expert on this issue and that my experience on sex work is as valid to me as they are to other sex workers," said Kiselbach.

She is supported by Pivot Legal Society lawyer Katrina Pacey, who said she believes it is unreasonable to ask active sex workers to go to court based on the boundaries they face because of their trade.

"Sex workers ... have privacy concerns working in an underground and criminalized industry," Pacey said. "They (also) have concerns about further stigma and discrimination.

"What we want is to have this really important human-rights case to happen without putting sex workers at further risk."

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Schoenborn on 'different plane' when he killed kids: Defence

CRIME The B.C. father who admitted to killing his three children in gruesome testimony at his trial should not be found guilty of murder, his lawyer said Thursday in his final arguments.

Allan Schoenborn shouldn't be found criminally responsible because he had delusions that the children were being molested — the culmination of two decades of mental illness, argued lawyer Peter Wilson.

"He saw reality on an entirely different plane than the rest of us," Wilson told the judge who is hearing the case without a jury.

Schoenborn is on trial for first-degree murder in the deaths of Kaitlynne, 10, Max, 8, and Cordon, 5.

Their mother found their bodies in their Merritt home in April 2008.

The Crown has said the killings were an act of revenge against the mother, who had severed her 15-year relationship with Schoenborn.

Wilson refuted that theory in his closing remarks, saying there wasn't supporting evidence.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

MINE The Supreme Court of Canada has ruled that the federal government did not conduct an adequate environmental assessment of the Red Chris Mining Project in British Columbia. But while the high court on Thursday granted an appeal by MiningWatch Canada, the ruling will not stop the project. That was because the high court ruled that MiningWatch did not have a direct financial interest in the case.

OLYMPIC POLL Seventy-three per cent of Canadians believe the 2010 Olympics will have a positive effect on the country, according to an Angus Reid poll released yesterday. In B.C., however, that goes down to 59 per cent.

SENTENCED A Surrey man who killed his girlfriend in front of his nine-year-old son has been sentenced to nine years in prison, cknw.com reports. Kelly David MacKenzie, 37, will serve six years of time served. He was charged with manslaughter in the beating death of Melissa Chatham, 24.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

B.C. celebrities pitch in for Haiti telethon

Various B.C. celebrities, including Nelly Furtado, Michael J. Fox, Ryan Reynolds, Pamela Anderson and Joshua Jackson are joining a star-studded cast for a one-hour Canada For Haiti telethon on Friday. For more on the lineup, see page 32. METRO NEWS SERVICES

VPD arrest wrong man on domestic dispute call

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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ARREST Vancouver police have apologized to a 44-year-old man who was arrested — and injured in the process — in a case of mistaken identity.

Two plain-clothed police officers responding to a domestic assault call in the early hours of Jan. 21 accidentally knocked on the wrong door, said Const. Jana McGuinness.

They were met by a middle-aged man who didn't understand English well and didn't realize the men were police. "The man resisted by striking out at the police and trying to slam the door, but the officers persisted in the belief that there may be (victims) inside who could be in danger," McGuinness said.

After he was arrested and taken to hospital, Cantonese-speaking officers learned police had arrested the wrong man.

"The VPD regrets any inconvenience or trauma this may have caused the family," said McGuinness.

"Police did respond to the correct suite immediately after, where they met the complainant who said her drunken partner had hit her ... Police located the man nearby and arrested him for assault."

Health cuts blamed on Games: Dix

CUTBACKS NDP MLA Adrian Dix said Thursday that the Olympic Games are being used as a scapegoat by the provincial government to hide shortcomings in the health-care budget.

Various elective surgeries across the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley have been cancelled or postponed so operating rooms are open for Olympic use.

Alana Downey's hip replacement has been delayed. "Showing Olympic pride is great, but it's coming at a heavy price," she said.

GREG DOWNS/ FOR METRO VANCOUVER

A world-class arts festival

Cultural Olympiad to showcase Canadian talent all month

VANCOUVER 2010 Games

KRISTEN THOMPSON
kristen.thompson@metronews.ca

The curtain goes up on Friday for the Cultural Olympiad, a two month-long celebration of arts and culture being held in conjunction with the 2010 Games.

The festival kicks off with The Fiddle And The Drum, a ballet featuring the music of legendary Canadian songstress Joni Mitchell at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre.

The show will set the stage for 180 other performances and exhibitions taking place around Metro Vancouver and Whistler until the Paralympics end in late March.

Some of the free and ticketed performances and events include BASH'd: A Gay Rap Opera, Rick: The Rick Hansen Story, and Hal Willner's Neil Young Project, featuring performances by Lou Reed, Ron Sexsmith, Iron and Wine and Broken Social Scene.

There will even be a theatrical reading of excerpts from Homer's Iliad, while Canadian musicians like Stars, Hey Rosetta!, Feist, City and Colour, Joel Plaskett, K'Naan and Blue Rodeo will be doing shows around town.

Robert Kerr, program director of the Olympiad, said the idea was to showcase the diversity of talent that's coming out of Vancouver and Canada to Games visitors.

"The Vancouver 2010 Cultural Olympiad is the first Winter Games to host a multi-year Cultural Olympiad," Kerr said.

"(It's) distinguished by its strong contemporary focus, diversity of content, strong collaborative approach with community arts and cultural organizations, and groundbreaking digital program."

K'Naan

Feist

Blue Rodeo's Jim Cuddy

GETTY IMAGES

More online

- For information on the Cultural Olympiad visit vancouver2010.com/cultural-festivals-and-events.

News in brief

FREE MEAL The B.C. Chef's Association is planning to serve 500 free meals to Downtown Eastside residents during the Olympics. Roasted vegetable stew will be served Feb. 16 during the HomeGround festival at Oppenheimer Park.

HAITI Paramedics from Vancouver Island part of the Canadian assistance team in Haiti helped deliver a baby boy. The team is treating more than 250 people daily at its field hospital in Port-au-Prince.

STABBING A man in his 20s has died in Abbotsford after being found with a stab wound to his chest on Thursday afternoon. The victim was found lying in the driveway of a home on Ross Road.

GAMES B.C. students will be welcoming athletes and dignitaries from around the world to the Athletes' Villages in Vancouver and Whistler with 70,000 welcome cards, the province announced on Thursday. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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No bikes on SkyTrain

Due to the extraordinary increase in passengers expected during the Games, and for safety reasons, TransLink is temporarily suspending its policy of allowing bicycles on SkyTrain's Expo, Millennium and Canada Lines from February 8 through March 3. METRO NEWS SERVICES

VANCOUVER
2010 **Games**

Downtown and UBC reroutes

5 DOWNTOWN/ROBSON
6 DAVIE/DOWNTOWN
Effective February 1 – March 2. #5 "Downtown" trips will be re-routed off of Robson in the downtown core, travelling from Robson @ Thurlow via Thurlow, Smithe, Burrard, Pender, Homer and Hastings. Interlined #6 "Davie" trips will begin from Richards at Hastings. Effective February 1 – March 2. #5 "Robson" trips will be-routed to travel from Richards at Hastings via Richards, Pender and Burrard before returning to regular routing along Robson. There are no changes to the routing for interlined #6 "Downtown" trips.

15 CAMBIE/DOWNTOWN
N15 CAMBIE/DOWNTOWN NIGHTBUS
Effective February 1 – March 2. "Downtown" (northbound) trips will travel to Seymour via Smithe instead of Robson. "Cambie" trips will travel southbound in the downtown core via Richards St instead of Cambie St.

17 DOWNTOWN/UBC Effective February 1 – March 2. #17 will travel into downtown only as far as Davie Street.

50 WATERFRONT STATION/FALSE CREEK SOUTH
Effective January 19 – March 2. #50 will be re-routed off of Granville (back onto Seymour northbound and Howe southbound) south of Robson. Effective January 19 – March 2. #50 will travel via Pender instead of Keefer between Abbott and Columbia.

NORTH VANCOUVER BUS TERMINUS IN DOWNTOWN VANCOUVER Effective February 1 – 28. Routes #240, #241, #242, #246 and #247 to Vancouver will terminate at a new stop on Georgia eastbound between Cambie and Hamilton, instead of the current stop on Cambie. Trips to the North Shore for these routes will depart from this same point on Georgia. A minor downtown re-routing for trips to the North Shore will not affect any other stops

C21 YALETOWN/BEACH/BURRARD STATION
C23 DAVIE/YALETOWN-ROUNDHOUSE STATION
Effective January 25 – February 28. No C21/C23 service east of Yaletown-Roundhouse Station. Customers wishing to access Main Street – Science World Station can use SkyTrain's Canada Line (Yaletown-Roundhouse Station to Waterfront Station) and Expo/Millennium Line (Waterfront to Main Street – Science World Station). Effective March 1 – 13. C21/C23 service will resume between Yaletown-Roundhouse and Main Street - Science World via a temporary alternate route using Pacific Blvd, Cambie, Pender, Abbott and Keefer, with regular routing between Quebec and Main Street Station.

N6 DOWNTOWN NIGHTBUS Effective February 1 – March 2. N6 "Downtown" trips will be re-routed off of Robson starting at Thurlow, travelling instead via Thurlow, Smithe, Burrard, Pender, Homer, Hastings and Richards to terminus on Dunsmuir. Note: No change for N6 "West End" trips.

N8 FRASER NIGHTBUS Effective February 1 – March 2. N8 "Fraser" trips will not stop on Seymour near Robson. Board instead on Seymour at Dunsmuir. Note: No change to N8 "Downtown" trips.

N24 UPPER LONSDALE/LONSDALE QUAY/DOWNTOWN NIGHTBUS Effective February 1 – 28. N24 "Downtown" trips will end on Georgia at Cambie. "Upper Lonsdale" and "Lonsdale Quay" trips will be re-routed in downtown Vancouver, travelling from Georgia at Cambie via Georgia, Cambie, Smithe and Homer before resuming regular routing westbound on Georgia to Stanley Park Causeway.

25 BRENTWOOD STATION/UBC
33 29TH AVENUE STATION/UBC
Effective February 1 – March 21. #25 and #33 will be re-routed off of Wesbrook Mall and off of West 16th west of Blanca, travelling instead via University Boulevard and Blanca.

33 29TH AVENUE STATION/UBC
Effective February 1 – March 2. #33 will be re-routed between Main & East 33rd Ave and King Edward Station (Cambie at King Edward Avenue), travelling via Main and King Edward instead of East 33rd, Midlothian, West 29th Ave and Cambie.

41 JOYCE STATION/UBC
43 JOYCE STATION/UBC
49 METROTOWN STATION/UBC
480 RICHMOND-BRIGHOUSE STATION/UBC
Effective February 1 – March 21. #41, #43, #49 and #480 will be re-routed off of Wesbrook Mall south of UBC Loop and off of West 16th Avenue. As a result, there will be no transit service to TRIUMF. These routes will travel instead via SW Marine, NW Marine and the section of Wesbrook north of UBC Loop. Note: There are no stops along the SW Marine/NW Marine re-route.

C20 MARINE DRIVE Effective January 25 – March 28. C20 will be re-routed to travel from UBC Loop via University Boulevard and East Mall to Thunderbird Boulevard.

C22 HAMPTON PLACE/UBC LOOP Effective February 1 – March 21. C22 will be re-routed to travel to Hampton Place via University Boulevard, East Mall and W. 16th Avenue. Then travels to Osoyoos Crescent via the local fire station roadway instead of Wesbrook Mall and Fairview Avenue.

SUBMITTED

Try to keep a smile on your face whether you're on the bus or on the SkyTrain (inset) as transit re-routes ensue during the Games.

Make your Olympic commute a little easier

Transit and local roads will be very busy during the Olympic Games period from February 12 – 28, and possibly for a few days before and after the Games, too. To make your daily work or school commute as easy as possible, here are some tips to keep in mind:

• **BE PREPARED TO ALLOW EXTRA TIME FOR TRAVEL** With the increased demand for transportation services during the Olympics, you could experience waits of up to 30 minutes to board transit at key locations in your morning commute. In mid-late afternoon, waits at busy downtown SkyTrain stations could be up to an hour or more, depending on event finish times.

• **TRY TO LEAVE DOWNTOWN VANCOUVER BY 2:00 PM.** Downtown event crowds and transit lineups will swell as 3:00 approaches; the best way to avoid long delays is to leave the downtown core before the rush period.

If you want to stay a while to enjoy the downtown celebration sites, try to leave after 7:00 pm and also try to avoid leaving just after Olympic events have finished.

• **BE PATIENT** You'll get to where you need to go; it just might take longer than usual.

• **DRESS TO STAY WARM AND DRY** You might be spending more time outside if there are waits for transit. Make sure you're prepared for the weather.

• **ENJOY THE EXPERIENCE!** People from across Canada and all over the world will be using the transit system and interacting with local residents.

A relaxed, pleasant atmosphere will make them feel good — and make you feel good, too.

Bus re-routes during Feb. 2010

• A number of TransLink bus routes will be revised to accommodate road closures for Olympic Games venue security zones, pedestrian corridors and celebration sites. The most-affected areas are downtown Vancouver and the University of British Columbia. Some re-routes near UBC will continue through the Paralympic Games into late-March.

• Use TransLink's online trip planner to help you find your most convenient journey. You can also call TransLink Customer Information at 604-953-3333. Bus re-route dates listed at left may be subject to change if road closure dates are revised. Any updates will be posted at translink.ca.

Road closures during the 2010 Winter Games require many buses to be re-routed in the Metro Vancouver region. The most affected areas are downtown Vancouver and UBC, with minor changes in a few other locations. Re-routes begin January 25 or February 1, depending on the particular route.

Be prepared. Visit **TravelSmart2010.ca** to get more details and to sign up for the new Transit Alert service — it sends customized transit information texts straight to your e-mail and cell phone! You can also speak with a knowledgeable TransLink customer representative at 604-953-3333.

TRANS LINK

Manitoba health officials defensive about Lesnar's bashing

Manitoba health officials are on the defensive after a bashing from UFC heavyweight champion Brock Lesnar. The American mixed martial arts star says he received "third-world" health-care treatment in Canada after falling ill during a hunting trip. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Harper upset with one-day sentence

Prime Minister Stephen Harper, left, says he understands why Canadians would be shocked by the sentence handed to a terror suspect near Toronto. Harper was critical of the law that gave criminals extra credit for prison time served before a conviction at a news conference in Truro, N.S. Amin Mohamed Durrani, 23, received a one-day prison sentence in a Brampton, Ont., court Wednesday after pleading guilty to knowingly participating in and assisting a terrorist group. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Troops killed four civilians in 2009

AFGHANISTAN Canadian soldiers struggling to contain the Taliban insurgency in southern Afghanistan killed four civilians last year, according to military figures obtained by The Canadian Press. The deaths occurred when the soldiers felt compelled to open fire during what is known as an escalation of force.

"There were three incidents of escalation of force that led to four civilian deaths caused by CF soldiers," the military said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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SCANLIFE

Help starts trickling into Haiti nursing homes, but for some it's too late. Scan this code for the story.

G8/G20 summits may feature climate talks

TREATY Environment Minister Jim Prentice says he's feeling international pressure to put climate change high on the agenda at the G20 and G8 summits this summer.

And while he's not exactly a champion of the idea quite yet, he's not saying no either.

Jim Prentice

Canada is dedicated to turning last month's Copenhagen climate accord into an internationally binding treaty well before the end of the year, Prentice said in an interview. "It's an agreement that reflects Canada's principles, so we very much want to see it converted into an international treaty over the course of 2010," he said. "Anything we can do to advance that is important."

But whether the G8 and G20 summits Canada is hosting at the end of June will serve to push along the process depends on how talks in the next few months go, he added.

"We'll be part of the drafting process to work it up to an international treaty. How far we will be by the time of the G20 meeting remains to be determined."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Haitians looking to escape to Canada

More than two million still homeless

Haiti
Crisis

Crowds continue to gather outside the Canadian Embassy in Port-au-Prince — Haitians hoping to escape the city more than a week after it was rocked by a massive earthquake.

Authorities say a staggering two million people are homeless while thousands are still without a steady supply of food and water.

Outside the capital, members of Canada's Disaster Assistance Response Team are in the quake-ravaged town of Jacmel, while Canadian soldiers in the town of Leogane are continuing efforts to help.

With heavy equipment coming from Port-au-Prince, Canada and Jamaica, DART hopes to be pumping potable water in Jacmel within the next few days.

In Leogane, a contingent of troops from HMCS Halifax continues to treat patients for secondary infections and to stem the spread of disease, still a primary concern.

The task of rebuilding Leogane will likely fall to members of the Royal 22e Regiment from CFB Valcartier, who are already arriving in the region.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

JACQUES BOISSINOT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A Canadian Armed Forces truck prepares to be loaded on the MV Wloclawek Thursday, at the Quebec City port. Military vehicles, including water purifying units and bulldozers, are being shipped to Haiti for a humanitarian mission.

By the numbers

- Canadians confirmed dead: 14
- Canadians missing: 321
- Canadians located: 1,867, up from 1,727 the day before.
- Canadians believed to be in Haiti: More than 6,000
- Total death toll in Haiti: Roughly 200,000, estimate by the European Union, quoting Haitian officials.

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Bishop named to replace man charged for possessing child porn

A new bishop will be installed in a Nova Scotia diocese next week, months after the former bishop was charged with possessing child pornography. Bishop Brian Dunn will officially take over Monday at a mass at St. Ninian's Cathedral in the Diocese of Antigonish. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Infrastructure funds still needed: Mayors

Canada's big city mayors are urging the federal government to keep billions of dollars in infrastructure money flowing as the country enters a new era of restraint.

They want Ottawa to extend the $4-billion federal infrastructure stimulus fund for at least six months past the current March 2011 deadline — and consider more funding even as it looks to save money elsewhere.

They're also urging the government to resist the urge to cut other programs — including the gas tax fund and GST rebates — that help municipalities build and repair roads, bridges, sewer systems and other infrastructure.

The mayors argue that spending on infrastructure will actually help the government erase the $56-billion deficit racked up since last year's recession, creating jobs, spurring economic growth and generating revenue to fill depleted federal coffers.

PAWEL DWULIT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Calgary Mayor Dave Bronconnier, left, greets Mississauga Mayor Hazel McCallion at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Big City Mayors Caucus in Ottawa on Thursday.

"The best way to fight federal deficits is to have people working and paying income and sales taxes," said Toronto Mayor David Miller.

Infrastructure projects to improve things like public transit not only create constructions jobs, he said — they help foster a more positive, productive environment for business, "which in itself creates jobs."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

VANOC plays hardball with Olympic ads

VANCOUVER 2010 Games

RIGHTS Another kind of competition is playing out ahead of the Olympics.

Opponents don suits instead of jerseys but the game is ultimately the same: Strategy must be honed and the goal is to earn gold. When play becomes unfair, someone cries foul.

Organizers of the Vancouver Winter Games aren't the referee, but they've been blowing the whistle in every direction as Games time draws near, attempting to defend the turf of their paying sponsors from companies they accuse of ambush marketing.

The Olympic organizing committee, known as VANOC, says some companies are trying to capitalize on the largest sporting event in the country by misleading consumers into believing they're affiliated.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Behaviour much like 'sleeper' agent, court hears

A lawyer for terror suspect Mohamed Harkat says his client's alleged declaration of loyalty to an Algerian extremist group —even if true — hardly makes him a member.

The Canadian Security Intelligence Service claims Harkat, arrested in Ottawa more than seven years ago, has ties to Islamic extremists and that he professed loyalty to Algeria's Armed Islamic Group.

Harkat

Lawyer Matt Webber told a CSIS officer during a Federal Court hearing Thursday it's hard to know what that means without more information and context.

Under cross-examination, the CSIS officer, referred to only as John to shield his identity, said the point is significant because it indicates Harkat's support for the methods of an "incredibly violent terrorist organization" known for killing civilians.

However, John could not elaborate, noting any information to underpin the allegation would be classified.

CSIS says Harkat has displayed behaviour typical of "sleeper" agents who set themselves up in foreign countries — use of a false passport and aliases, keeping a low profile and concealing his previous whereabouts.

The former gas-station attendant and pizza delivery man, arrested in December 2002, denies any involvement with terrorism.

The Algerian-born Harkat, 41, arrived in Canada in 1995, obtained refugee status and applied for permanent residence.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

POLITICS The Harper government was warned months ago of a "crisis" at a government-funded rights advocacy agency, according to internal correspondence obtained by The Canadian Press.

SWINE FLU A new study says genetic susceptibility is unlikely to be responsible for increased rates of severe H1N1 cases in aboriginal people. It has been noted with H1N1 and with earlier pandemics that aboriginal people seemed to be more prone to developing severe illness than non-aboriginals. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Meteorite hits doctor's office

Doctors at a small U.S. medical practice got a big surprise when a tennis ball-sized meteorite punched a hole through their roof. No one was injured. Dr. Frank Ciampi says the rock struck the two-story building around 5:30 p.m. Monday in Lorton, Va., not far from Washington, D.C. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Soviet-era practices returning to Russia?

Some time in the coming month, Russian poetess Yulia Privedyonnaya, left, may be sent off to a psychiatric ward in a case activists described Thursday as a dangerous throwback to the Soviet-era practice of punitive psychiatry. Earlier this month, the Supreme Court upheld a ruling that Privedyonnaya should undergo a month-long psychiatric examination. Her case is part of a long-standing effort by authorities to enforce political conformity, said Sergei Kovalyov, a Soviet-era dissident. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

VIRGINIA The man accused of unleashing a bloodbath that killed eight people on the quiet homestead he shared with his sister and her family had complained to a friend that he feared being kicked out of the house. However, an attorney said that Christopher Speight's sister was not trying to remove her brother. Henry Devening said Speight's sister last week put the property in her brother's name. He added Speight had a history of mental problems.

NEW YORK A woman pleaded not guilty Thursday to abusing pets in front of her children at their home, where authorities said 42 dead animals were found buried. Her 21-year-old son contacted authorities in November, describing the home as "a concentration camp for animals." A judge removed Sharon McDonough's six daughters, ranging in age from 18 months to 13 years, from the home. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

One horror after another

Haiti Crisis

GRAVES Workers are carving out mass graves on a hillside north of Haiti's capital, using earth-movers to bury 10,000 people in a single day even as relief workers warn that Haitians are still dying of injuries from the Jan. 12 quake for lack of medical care.

Clinics have 12-day waiting lists for patients, crushed arms and legs are festering and makeshift camps that have sprung up in parks, streets and vacant lots now house an estimated 500,000 people, many in need of food and water.

The death toll is estimated at 200,000, according to Haitian government figures, with 80,000 buried in mass graves. The commission now estimates two million are homeless.

North of Port-au-Prince, burial workers said the macabre task of handling the never-ending flow of bodies was traumatizing.

"I have seen so many children, so many children. I cannot sleep at night and, if I do, it is a constant nightmare," said Foultone Fequiert, his face covered with a T-shirt against the overwhelming stench.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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SCANLIFE

After claiming recovery is complete, some fear China's tackling of inflation will hamper the global economy. Scan this code for the story.

123 Haitian children arrive in Netherlands

Haiti Crisis

Enveloped in his new mother's embrace, four-year-old Jersen Silvester Eefting gazed wide-eyed around a hotel lobby at the end of an 11-hour flight that whisked him from the devastation of Haiti to his new home in the Netherlands.

PETER DEJONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A woman believed to be with a Dutch adoption association carries two Haitian children Thursday after arriving in the Netherlands.

"It feels magnificent," said Roel Eefting as he shot video of the newly-adopted son he had met minutes earlier.

Jersen was one of 123 children, aged from two months to seven years, flown to the Netherlands Thursday.

They arrived on a plane chartered by the Dutch government and two adoption agencies to airlift children out of Haiti to new lives in the Netherlands and Luxembourg. None of the children were hurt in last week's earthquake. Earlier this week, 54 orphans arrived in Pittsburgh.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Coalition teams are in place, working around the clock, helping to restore the lives of countless suffering children and families as the situation in Haiti reaches epic proportions. As many as 3 million Haitians require immediate and long term help.

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Embassy launches Facebook page

The U.S. Embassy in Baghdad is looking for Iraqi friends on its new Facebook page. The embassy launched the page to reach out to Iraqi youth. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Edwards admits to fathering child

Former U.S. Democratic presidential candidate John Edwards finally came forward Thursday to admit that he fathered a child with a woman that he hired before his second failed White House bid.

In this 2009 file photo, Rielle Hunter leaves court with her child.

Edwards, a former U.S. senator from North Carolina and 2004 vice-presidential candidate, confirmed this in a statement released to The Associated Press, after initially denying that he'd fathered a child during his affair with videographer Rielle Hunter. The statement came as the second birthday of Frances Quinn Hunter approaches and days before a new book about the scandal is due. It was written by Andrew Young, the Edwards campaign aide who initially said he was the baby's father.

Edwards

"I am Quinn's father," the former senator declared in his statement. He admitted it was wrong to have denied that and vowed to do "everything in my power" to support the girl. Edwards had admitted the affair but denied he was the father of the child. In an excerpt of an ABC interview, Young says that Edwards asked him to arrange a fake a paternity test. "Get a doctor to fake the DNA results," Young said Edwards told him. "And he asked me ... to steal a diaper from the baby so he could secretly do a DNA test to find out if this (was) indeed his child."

Edwards' wife, Elizabeth, has been battling incurable cancer since March 2007.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. commander looks to cut down on Afghan night raids

AFGHANISTAN The top U.S. and NATO commander in Afghanistan plans to tighten the rules on night raids, The Associated Press has learned, in a new step to curb public anger over perceived violations against civilians.

Such raids have emerged as the No. 1 complaint among Afghans after Gen. Stanley McChrystal curbed the use of airstrikes and other weaponry last year.

NATO spokesman Rear Adm. Gregory Smith told the AP a new directive would be issued soon to set down new rules for night raids.

"It addresses the issue that's probably the most socially irritating thing that we do and that is entering people's homes at night," he said Wednesday. He would not elaborate pending a formal announcement.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sensitive of civilians

- The U.S.-led force has become increasingly sensitive to complaints by Afghan civilians as part of a renewed effort to win support among the public and lure people away from the Taliban. Last year the U.S. curbed the use of airpower and heavy weapons if civilians could be put at risk.

Prayer ritual forces down plane

PHILADELPHIA A teenage airplane passenger using an Orthodox Jewish prayer instrument caused a misunderstanding that led the captain to divert the Kentucky-bound plane to Philadelphia and prompted a visit from a bomb squad.

A 17-year-old boy on US Airways Express Flight 3079 travelling from New York to Louisville was using tefillin, a set of black boxes attached to leather straps and containing biblical passages.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gitmo deadline passes

GUANTANAMO As U.S. President Barack Obama neared his self-imposed deadline to close the Guantanamo Bay prison, the Justice Department offices of the terrorist detention task force was bustling, not with lawyers, but construction workers tearing apart the walls, ripping out any trace of its secretive work, although Obama's goal to shutter the prison is still far off.

The staffers were gone, having completed recommendations on detention policy.

On Wednesday, the Guantanamo task force made its final recommendations for all of the 198 remaining detainees awaiting transfer, trial or further detention.

Attorney General Eric Holder has reviewed the bulk of those recommendations and decided that the most feared detainee — the self-declared mastermind of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, Khalid Sheikh Mohammed — and four henchmen should face trial in New York.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Comment

Time to raise your spirit

UrbanCompass

If you're looking for the real spirit of the 2010 Olympic Games, go east young man!

To Calgary.

If our arch-rival's response to the Olympic torch relay this week is any indication, Cowtown is eating our lunch, spirit-wise. We haven't seen that kind of excitement here since the Games were awarded to Vancouver, which seems like a long, long, long time ago.

Maybe it's inevitable. Here in Vancouver we're bombarded by Stupid Olympic Tricks daily that never make it across the mountains.

I mean when they start talking about scraping the snow off the parking lot at Cypress to cover the exposed mountains so the skiers and boarders don't kill themselves, that's a buzz kill. I keep hearing rumours that they are days away from packing in the entire Cypress venue and moving to Whistler where there's still snow.

"Maybe, if we're good, Calgary will let us have some (spirit). Don't bogart that torch!"

If you want real Olympic anxiety how about this: According to the New York Post, creditors of Fortress Investments LLC, which owns Whistler Blackcomb and recently missed a half-billion-dollar payment, is threatening to seize control of the resort. If this keeps up we'll have to hold the Olympics at Big White.

Or Calgary.

Calgary, still basking in the glow of the flawless 1988 Games, has spent the week frolicking around the 2010 Olympic torch, generating one feel-good story after another:

Just one example: Thousands watched as Audrey Forzani, 95, matriarch of the Sport Chek family, and the oldest of the 12,000 torch bearers, did her 300 metres in her wheelchair.

Where have you gone, Sam Sullivan?

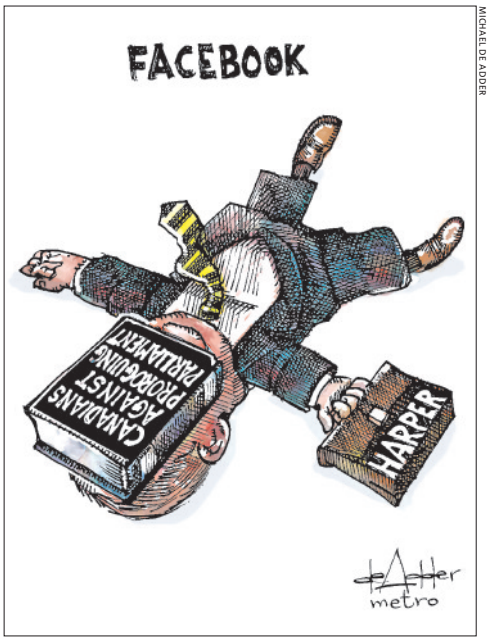
Meanwhile, back in Vancouver, we learn the Games will no longer be declared smoke free to accommodate IOC officials, who demand the right to light up their own little torches at will. Now that's the spirit!

Calgary has several advantages over Vancouver in the spirit department. For one thing, it has snow. Even after the recent chinook, there's still snow on the mountains. If we continue to enjoy 13 C temperatures, the cherry blossoms will be at their peak just in time for the NBC announcers to turn up in their designer parkas.

Calgary is also less, er, politically diverse than Vancouver, which has a large population of socialists who frequently remind us that these Games are being held on stolen aboriginal land, even though the aboriginals seem happy to accommodate a steady stream of Olympic ads on their giant electronic billboards.

Anyway, it's good to see someone has the Olympic spirit. Maybe, if we're good, Calgary will let us have some. Don't bogart that torch!

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Views

Canada pitches in to help Haiti tonight

Marketplace

I live in Vancouver and sometimes take the bus to work through the Downtown Eastside — known as "the poorest postal code in North America." Not a lot of people with a lot of money ride that bus.

So imagine my surprise this week, hearing passengers talk about how they want to send money to Haiti, devastated by the Jan. 12 earthquake.

"I owe Visa a whack of money," said a middle-aged woman, dressed in a slightly dirty coat, missing a button. "But I'm gonna put a donation to Haiti on my credit card. They could use the money."

An older man across the aisle joined in, saying he had a collection agency tracking him down, but he was putting a cheque for $25 in the mail to help people in Haiti.

A third passenger said he planned to collect bottles and donate the money to the Red Cross, earmarked for Haitian aid.

"The Red Cross says Canadians have donated almost $36 million and made another $8 million in pledges."

These are people with very little money figuring out how to help others far worse off than themselves. It says a lot about the spirit of our country. Yes, our household debt hit a record high last year — for every $100 of income, Canadians owe $145 in debt.

And, yet, people are opening their wallets to lend a hand to Haiti. The Red Cross says Canadians have donated almost $36 million and made another $8 million in pledges. Other charities are reporting big donations, too. World Vision says aid is coming in faster than during the 2004 tsunami. So far, it has raised more than $5 million. Oxfam, Care Canada and Save the Children are raising millions, too.

There's no overall figure available, but other charities receiving donations include Medecins Sans Frontieres Canada, UNICEF and Plan Canada.

Tonight, Marketplace, the program I regularly co-host on CBC Television, will be pre-empted: CBC Television, CTV and Global Television are collaborating to produce Canada For Haiti, a one-hour, commercial-free special featuring a star-studded lineup of Canadian talent. Also broadcasting tonight is the U.S. telethon Hope For Haiti Now, hosted by George Clooney.

Programming begins tonight at 7 local ET/CT/PT, 8 local AT/MT and 8:30 local NT.

Donations accepted during the broadcast will benefit a coalition of Canadian non-governmental organizations, including Canadian Red Cross Society, Care Canada, Free the Children, Oxfam Canada, Oxfam Quebec, Plan Canada, Save the Children Canada, UNICEF Canada and World Vision Canada.

I hope you'll tune in and donate if you can. Who knows? Maybe next week on the bus you'll be talking about what you did to help.

Erica Johnson co-hosts CBC Television's investigative program, Marketplace, pre-empted tonight for a Haiti fundraiser, but normally seen at 8:30 p.m.

Worth mentioning

Pioneering snowflake photos on sale in N.Y.

Photographs by the first person to capture the image of a single snowflake with a camera are going up for sale in New York, featuring examples from a life's work of pioneering 19th-century images of thousands of jewel-like snowflakes — no two alike.

Wilson A. Bentley, a Vermont farmer known as Snowflake Bentley and The Snowflake Man, was fascinated with snowflakes, and starting Thursday, 26 of his images are for sale at the four-day American Antiques Show presented by the American Folk Art Museum.

Ten of the images are of snowflakes, which he called snow crystals, and are priced at $4,800 each. The others show winter scenes.

They are being offered by Carl Hammer, whose Chicago art gallery is showing 20 other Bentley photographs.

"They're remarkably beautiful," Hammer said. "There are imperfections on the outer edges of the image itself and on the paper, but the images themselves are quite spectacular." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Groundbreaking

- The year was 1885. By jury-rigging a microscope with a bellows camera, Bentley was able to capture for the first time the exquisite delicacy of a snowflake. His groundbreaking 1931 book, Snow Crystals, recorded for posterity the beauty, fragility and lacy designs of 2,500 snowflakes.

We Know What You're Thinking

53% The number of Canadians who have emergency funds set aside for up to three months of their income.

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Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number – street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

U.S. economy expected to gain momentum
A forecast of future U.S. economic activity jumped 1.1 per cent in December, a private research group said Thursday, suggesting that economic growth in the United States could pick up this spring. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Recovery to pick up: BoC

Canada's economic recovery is becoming more solidly entrenched with the private sector beginning to play an increasingly pivotal role in leading the country out of recession, the Bank of Canada said Thursday in its latest policy report.

In a mildly upbeat assessment, the central bank's quarterly outlook contains some upward revisions for growth in the United States, China, Europe and Japan that should help Canada's battered exporters and manufacturing sector in the next two years.

Economy grows

- Canada's economy likely grew by 3.3 per cent in the last three months of 2009, the Bank of Canada says. For 2010, it will advance by 2.9 per cent, followed by a 3.5 per cent pickup in 2011.

And it says Canada's economy will grow faster going forward than expected, in part because it got off to such a slow start last summer.

Overall, the central bank appears more optimistic about the sustainability of the recovery around the world, although it also cautions that risks of a stall in recovery remain.

There is also some upside hope, the bank adds, conditions may continue to improve better than projected.

"It is thus possible that the recovery in global demand could be more vigorous than projected, resulting in stronger external demand for Canadian exports," the bank judges.

In Canada, it adds: "Economic growth is expected to become more solidly entrenched over the projection period as self-sustaining growth in private demand takes hold."

The analysis is broadly similar to what the bank said last October, when it last issued a comprehensive forecast on the economy, but the tone is brighter at the margins and the danger signals less frequent.

"The global economic recovery is under way," Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney said at a news conference following the central bank's latest quarterly report on monetary policy.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bankruptcies fall, but still more than 2008

ECONOMY The number of Canadian individuals and businesses who filed for bankruptcy fell for the second straight month in November, but remained higher than they were in the same month of 2008.

The total number of bankruptcies declined by four per cent to 8,878 in November compared to 9,245 in October, according to figures released Thursday by the federal Superintendent of Bankruptcy.

Part of the drop was attributed to fewer consumer bankruptcies, which declined 3.8 per cent to 8,482 in November from 8.816 in October. Business filings dropped 7.7 per cent to 396, from 429 in October.

There was a much bigger decline between October and September, which historically sees a heavy volume of bankruptcies. The volume last September may have also been boosted by a change in fees.

November tends to have a relatively light volume of bankruptcies, showing month-to-month declines in all but three years in the past decade.

Compared to November 2008, consumer and individual bankruptcies were still up 2.4 per cent from 8,669 a year earlier because of an increase in bankruptcies by individuals.

The number of individual bankruptcies in November was up 3.9 per cent from 8,163 in November 2008 while the number of business bankruptcies fell 7.7 per cent from 506 in November 2008.

The recession's impact could be more clearly seen in the number of bankruptcies over a 12-month period, which rose 29.6 per cent to 121,988 in November from 94,134 in the period ended November 2008.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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ScanLife
After big gains in brand recognition, RBC expands golf presence with sponsorships of Mike Weir and Stephen Ames. Scan this code for the story.

GM's Opel to cut 8,300 jobs

UNEMPLOYED General Motor Co.'s Opel unit will cut 8,300 jobs across Europe, including 4,000 in Germany, and close a plant in Antwerp, Belgium — casualties of the "tough reality" of a shrinking European auto market.

> **"We have to take a plant out and unfortunately it's Antwerp."**
> Nick Reilly, Opel

Opel head Nick Reilly said Thursday that the Antwerp plant had to go, with the loss of more than 2,300 jobs, because the company needs to shed 20 per cent of its manufacturing capacity. That's because far fewer cars are being sold as a result of the recession.

"We have to take a plant out and unfortunately it's Antwerp," Reilly said at a press conference in Brussels. "It is the tough reality of the current business environment."

The plant, founded in 1924, has already shrunk from employing 7,000 workers at its peak to around a third of that today. It produces the Astra three-door, convertible and station-wagon versions, almost all of them for delivery outside Belgium.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fast food **The King in Moscow**

NIKHAIL MEZRIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A woman walks by a poster announcing the opening of Burger King's first outlet in Russia at a shopping mall in northwest Moscow Thursday. The American-owned fast food chain will open another outlet in downtown Moscow on Monday. Main rival McDonald's operates 235 restaurants throughout Russia.

Business in brief

LOSSES Canadian life sciences company MDS Inc. issued preliminary results Thursday, including a $19-million US loss from its continuing operations and a $58-million loss overall in the fourth quarter. Toronto-based MDS is in the process of selling most of its remaining business units but will keep MDS Nordion, best known for supplying medical isotopes to customers used around the world. The loss from continuing operations for Q4 was 15 cents per share. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Canada

Mariners, Hernandez reach five-year deal

Felix Hernandez and the Seattle Mariners have completed a $78-million US, five-year deal that averts an arbitration hearing and keeps the young ace under contract through 2014. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports

Apology for crotch-grab prank

An Italian television channel has apologized for a prank in which a female presenter attempted to grab David Beckham, left, between the legs. The AC Milan midfielder was visibly angered when Elena Di Cioccio, who fronts the popular show Le Iene (The Hyenas) on Italia Uno, made her move while the soccer player was being interviewed by another person Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Sports in brief

NFL Wade Phillips is sticking around as coach of the Dallas Cowboys for two more years. Team owner Jerry Jones said Thursday that Phillips is signed through the 2011 season.

BASEBALL A person familiar with negotiations said on Thursday the Philadelphia Phillies and all-star centre-fielder Shane Victorino have agreed to a $22 million US, three-year contract. Earlier Thursday Joe Blanton and the Phils agreed to a $24-million US, three-year contract that avoided salary arbitration.

OHL Windsor Spitfires forward Zack Kassian has been suspended 20 games by the Ontario Hockey League for a vicious hit to the head of an opponent.

HOCKEY A spokesman for the Montreal Canadiens says former great Jean Beliveau is in hospital undergoing unspecified tests, but his life isn't believed to be in any danger.

CURLING Kevin Martin and defending champion Glenn Howard head a group of seven teams with a record of 2-0 following the first four draws of the BDO Classic Canadian Open, the men's third Capital One Grand Slam of Curling series event. METRO NEWS SERVICES

SCOREBOARD

NHL

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Carolina 5 Atlanta 2
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Phoenix 4 Nashville 2
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FRIDAY'S GAMES
Montreal at New Jersey
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Dallas at Edmonton

NBA

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Cleveland 93 L.A. Lakers 87
L.A. 85 Clippers Denver 105

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Vancouver's Alex Burrows, left, checks Dallas' Karlis Skrastins during first period action from Thursday's game.

Canucks win 3 straight

NHL RESULTS

Stars 3 Canucks 4

Christian Ehrhoff scored the go-ahead goal early in the third period and Alex Burrows extended his goal-scoring streak to five games as the Vancouver Canucks beat the Dallas Stars 4-3 on Thursday night.

Burrows, who has points in 10 consecutive contests, launched the play that produced Ehrhoff's key goal for the Canucks (30-18-2), who posted their third-straight win and moved into a tie for the Northwest Division lead with Colorado.

Mason Raymond and Kyle Wellwood also scored for Vancouver, while Loui Eriksson, Toby Petersen and Trevor Daley tallied for the Stars (21-18-11), as they suffered their 10th consecutive road loss.

Dallas backup goaltender Alex Auld, who spent the first four seasons of his pro career in the Canucks organization, suited up against his former team for the first time, stopping 19 of 23 shots.

The Stars were missing three of their top-six forwards — Mike Ribeiro, Brenden Morrow and Jere Lehtinen — to injury.

Raymond opened the scoring 14:16 into the game as he took a pass from Ryan Kesler, went around Dallas defenceman Niklas Grossman and beat Auld with a backhand to the opposite top corner. The tally ended a 10-game goal drought for Raymond.

Burrows had a goal disallowed with 1:55 left in the second after a video review showed he kicked the puck into the net. Burrows, who was fined $2,500 US by the NHL last week for accusing referee Stephane Auger of deliberately calling penalties against him, did not protest.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Notes

- Vancouver centre Ryan Johnson returned to action after missing 12 games with a foot fracture ... Canucks defenceman Willie Mitchell missed his second straight game with an undisclosed upper-body injury suffered Saturday against Pittsburgh.

New Orleans defence known for taking risks

NFL The ideas Gregg Williams covered in his first formal meeting with the Saints' defence had nothing to do with formations or coverages and everything to do with nastiness and fear.

"That was a defining moment as far as mindset," Saints linebacker Scott Shanle said, recalling a speech of about 30 minutes that Williams delivered back when off-season workouts began last spring. "This defence is the type of defence everybody in the NFL would want to play in."

"This defence is the type of defence everybody in the NFL would want to play in."
Scott Shanle, Saints linebacker

The Saints are not immune to giving up big plays and lots of yards. They ranked 25th in the regular season in yards allowed (357.8 per game), yielding more than 400 in a game six times this season.

Such statistics could be a problem with a quarterback like Brett Favre and the Minnesota Vikings visiting New Orleans on Sunday in the NFC championship game. Yet Williams said on Thursday that he doesn't worry about that.

The Saints' defence gives up yards because Williams and his players take an aggressive approach that sometimes means taking risks. The reward can be game-changing plays. The Saints were second in the NFL this season in turnovers with 39 on 26 interceptions and 13 fumble recoveries.

"That's a huge part of our success so far, being able to turn over the ball, being able to score when we do get the turnovers and change the game," defensive end Will Smith said.

The system has been a fantastic fit for veteran free safety Darren Sharper, who called Williams a "genius" as far back as training camp, before his nine regular season interceptions, three of which he returned for scores.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Man U looks to retake Premier lead

SOCCER With its rivals in FA Cup action this weekend, Manchester United has the opportunity to address its recent disappointing form and retake the Premier League lead.

Defending champion United can leapfrog Arsenal and Chelsea, which both continue to chase a Wembley final appearance with FA Cup matches at Preston and Stoke, if it beats a Hull side it defeated 3-1 a month ago. United, which has won just one of its last four matches, lost 2-1 to local rival Manchester City in the Carling Cup on Tuesday.

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392

Kobe reaches 25,000 points
Los Angeles Lakers superstar Kobe Bryant is the 15th player in NBA history to reach 25,000 career points and the youngest to hit the milestone. Bryant reached the mark by making one free throw late in the second quarter of Thursday night's 93-87 loss to the Cleveland Cavaliers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Henin keeps comeback rolling

AUSTRALIAN OPEN Seven-time major winner Justine Henin is through to the fourth round at the Australian Open, her first Grand Slam tournament since ending a 20-month retirement.

Henin, who received a wild card entry, beat 27th-seeded Alisa Kleybanova 3-6, 6-4, 6-2. Henin was just one point away from being a set and 4-1 down, but broke back in fifth game to get herself back in the match.

Kleybanova double-faulted to lose the second set.

The 27-year-old Henin is two tournaments into a comeback to the tour, having lost the Brisbane International final to Kim Clijsters two weeks ago.

Henin retired in May 2008 while holding the No. 1 ranking, but announced her return to the tour in September after watching Clijsters win the U.S. Open only three tournaments into a tour comeback.

Dinara Safina also advanced to the fourth round, winning her first match on the major's marquee court since her lopsided loss to Serena Williams in last year's final.

Jelena Jankovic just keeps running into trouble at the Grand Slams.

Second-seeded Safina beat Britain's Elena Baltacha 6-1, 6-2 in her return to Rod Laver Arena and eighth-seeded Jankovic was upset by No. 31 Alona Bondarenko, falling 6-2, 6-3 for her first loss in 10 meetings with the Ukrainian player.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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ScanLife
Perennial sad sack Bobcats are suddenly NBA contenders after adopting new acquisition Stephen Jackson's swagger. Scan this code for the story.

Habs part ways with Laraque

General manager Bob Gainey feels his Montreal Canadiens have a far better chance of making the playoffs without enforcer Georges Laraque than they do with him.

PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS
Former Canadien George Laraque comments after being released by the team Thursday.

So even though Laraque will remain on the team's roster and his salary will still count on the team's cap figure, Gainey deemed it necessary Thursday to jettison Laraque from the Canadiens for the remainder of the season.

"I told him that he would not be continuing as part of our group for the rest of this season, for reasons of lack of productivity and distractions to our group," Gainey said. "We felt our goals were more achievable to continue without him as part of the group."

Laraque told TSN just after receiving the news Thursday morning that it was classless on Gainey's part to let him go considering everything that was going on in Haiti, where both his parents were born.

Gainey said Thursday that the decision to let Laraque go had in fact been taken prior to the Jan. 12 earthquake that devastated the country, but it was put on hold in light of Laraque's ties to Haiti.

"It's obviously extremely disappointing for it to finish like this, but what's going on in Haiti right now has given me some perspective," Laraque said on Thursday afternoon.

"I want to look at the positives. It was an honour for me to wear the Canadiens uniform, and I'm happy I was able to play in front of my family."

Still, he did take exception to Gainey's assertion that he had become a distraction to the team.

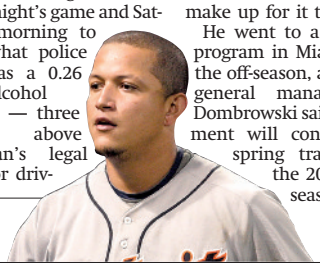
"I'm wondering what that means," Laraque said. "I never made any negative comments to the media just so I wouldn't be a distraction. I never did anything to embarrass the team." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tigers slugger Cabrera says treatment for alcoholism has turned his life around

BASEBALL Detroit Tigers slugger Miguel Cabrera spent three months in a treatment program for alcoholism following a much-publicized drinking binge during the final weekend of the regular season.

Cabrera said Thursday he has turned his life around. He said he hasn't had a drink since he was taken into custody by police after a domestic abuse complaint was filed by his wife in the early morning of Oct. 3 — hours before a crucial game against the Chicago White Sox.

The first baseman with a $152.3-million US contract got drunk enough between Friday night's game and Saturday morning to have what police said was a 0.26 blood-alcohol reading — three times above Michigan's legal limit for driving — and a bruised and cut left cheek.


Miguel Cabrera

Cabrera said he feels as though he let down his teammates and intends to make up for it this season.

He went to a treatment program in Miami during the off-season, and Detroit general manager Dave Dombrowski said the treatment will continue into spring training and the 2010 regular season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nash selected to start in NBA all-star game

VOTE Allen Iverson was voted to start in the NBA All-Star Game on Thursday, while Tim Duncan and Victoria's Steve Nash made late moves to claim starting spots for the Western Conference.

Nash passed the inactive Tracy McGrady as the second guard, while Duncan disappointed Dallas fans hoping to see Dirk Nowitzki start by rallying past the Mavericks forward.

LeBron James was the leading vote-getter for the Feb. 14 game at Cowboys Stadium, becoming the first player to earn at least 2.5 million votes three times. He will make his sixth all-star appearance, all as a starter.

"The fans still love and see what I do every night and they appreciate it, and I appreciate them for electing me as an all-star starter," James said before the Cavaliers hosted the Los Angeles Lakers. "It's still special."

Joining James and Iverson as East starters were Miami guard Dwyane Wade, Orlando centre Dwight Howard and Boston forward Kevin Garnett.

Lakers guard Kobe Bryant was picked in the West along with Phoenix centre Amare Stoudemire and Denver forward Carmelo Anthony.

Starters were decided by fan balloting at NBA arenas and electronically. The reserves will be chosen by votes by the head coaches in each conference and will be announced next Thursday.

The fans still love Iverson, even though he's played only 19 games during the worst season of his career. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Back to Dallas
- It's a return to Dallas for Steve Nash, who spent six seasons with the Mavericks before signing with the Suns in 2004.

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Women hit podium

Maëlle Ricker and Dominique Maltais hit the snowboardcross podium Thursday, while fellow Canadian Mike Robertson officially punched his ticket to the Vancouver Winter Games. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Vancouver Games

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

‘Speed Queen’ makes her last hurrah

I call the hotel in northern Italy and the man at reception says he’ll find Emily Brydon right away.

“Everyone knows her,” he claims.

There’s chuckling and I make out Emily’s voice as she scurries to the phone leaving her ski buddies for a moment. No doubt they’ll pardon the interruption and anxiously wait to hear the finish of her latest tall tale.

Brydon has been an enormous part of the Canadian ski story for more than a decade. She’s a constant contender and stood on the World Cup podium nine times. That’s more than any female in this country’s alpine history with the exception of Nancy Greene, Laurie Graham and Betsy Clifford.

That’s exceptional company to keep.

Then again, Emily Brydon is an exceptional woman — larger than life some might say.

Her third Olympics in 2010 will be her last as she moves on with a career that includes the operation of a children’s foundation near her home in Fernie, B.C.

ALEXIS BOICHARD/AGENCE ZOOM/GETTY IMAGES

Canadian skier Emily Brydon will be competing in her third, and final, Winter Olympics next month.

She also wants to work with Right to Play and make more trips to Africa to help desperate kids.

“By putting a definite conclusion to my career, I’ve sort of inspired myself,” she says. “I don’t want to have any regrets.”

Brydon is a survivor and can make the best of any given situation. That’s why she’s the acknowledged leader of the Canadian female team, unofficially dubbed The Speed Queens. It’s a tight-knit group that has lost stars Kelly VanderBeek and Larisa Yurkiw to injury.

“I’ve experienced it all,” Brydon sighs wistfully. “It would be easy to get caught up in the sadness of those who won’t experience the Games. But it makes me appreciate the team we have. We need to keep going. We have a job to do.”

There’s also an unfinished story to tell and even on a phone, thousands of miles away, I can sense Brydon believes there can be a happy ending.

“I’m totally prepared,” she stresses.

“I have to hold on to that. I’m so proud to be Canadian.”

I say goodbye to her, hoping the speed queen’s last hurrah will be a tall tale we can all remember for many years to come.

Scott Russell is the Host of CBC Sports Weekend seen Saturday afternoons. He has covered professional and amateur sports including nine Olympic games and numerous world championships.

Curling skip Bernard gets some Olympic ink

TATTOOS It was a promise Cheryl Bernard figured she wouldn’t have to keep.

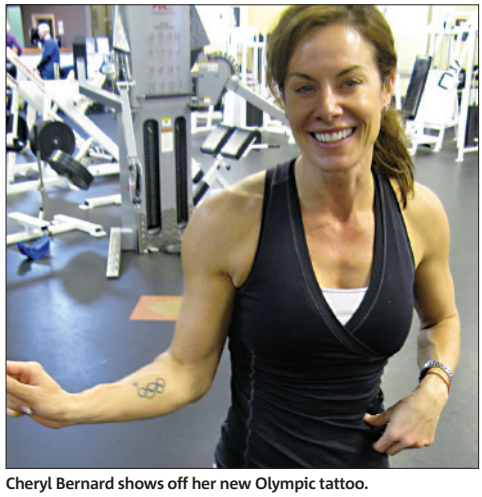
The Calgary curler made a deal with teammate Cori Bartel that if they qualified for the Olympics they’d get tattoos to mark the achievement.

So when Bernard’s rink won the Olympic trials in Edmonton last month, Bartel was quick to remind her skip about the agreement they’d made.

“It was probably two or three years ago when we started this process and Cori and I are actually the ones who kind of decided this is what we’re going to do,” Bernard said in an interview Thursday at her Calgary gym. “I don’t know that I ever believed it would happen and Cori reminded me the minute we won.”

The week after their victory, Bernard, Bartel and teammate Susan O’Connor headed to the tattoo parlour. The lone holdout was second Carolyn Darbyshire, whose daughter didn’t want her to do it.

The three curlers now have the colourful Olympic rings and a small Maple Leaf branded on the inside of their forearms.



BILL GRAVELAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cheryl Bernard shows off her new Olympic tattoo.

“I’m like, if I’m ever going to get a tattoo this is going to be the one I wanted,” Bernard said. “It’s something even my grandmother would approve of.”

They’re not the first Canadian curlers to get tattoos. Shannon Kleibrink and her teammates, who competed at the 2006 Games in Turin, had the rings and a Maple Leaf tattooed on their ankles.

Bernard, 43, has altered her body to mark a special occasion before. She got a stud in her right nostril to celebrate her 40th birthday and plans to keep it in during the Olympics.

“Oh yeah, I never take it out,” she said. “It was my 'I made it to 40 thing' and it was just kind of spur of the moment and you know what — I like to do kind of different things.”

So does that mean there be more tattoos in the future?

“It hurt a lot,” she said. “Someone asked me if I win a medal if I intend to add to it and the answer is no.”

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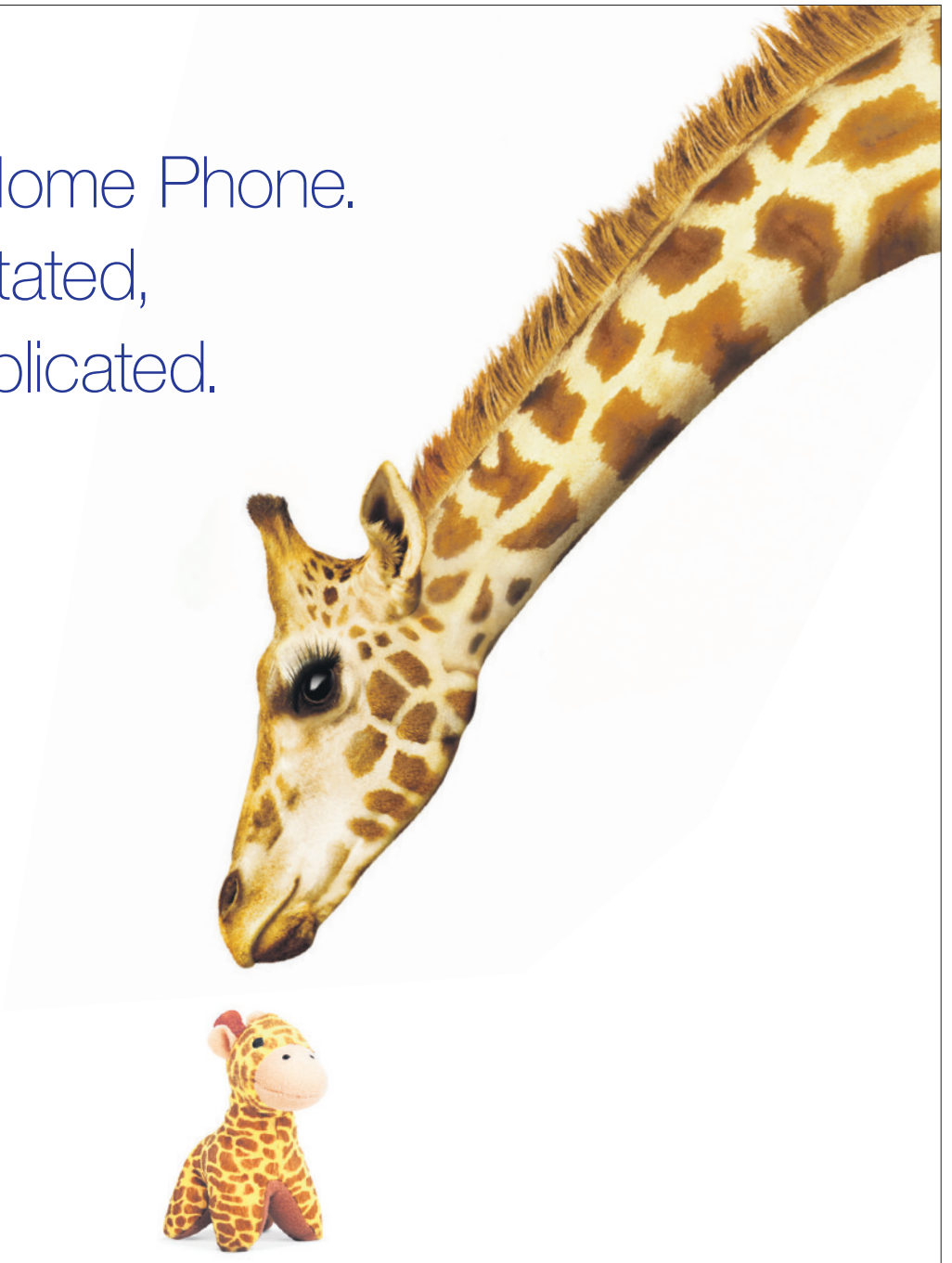

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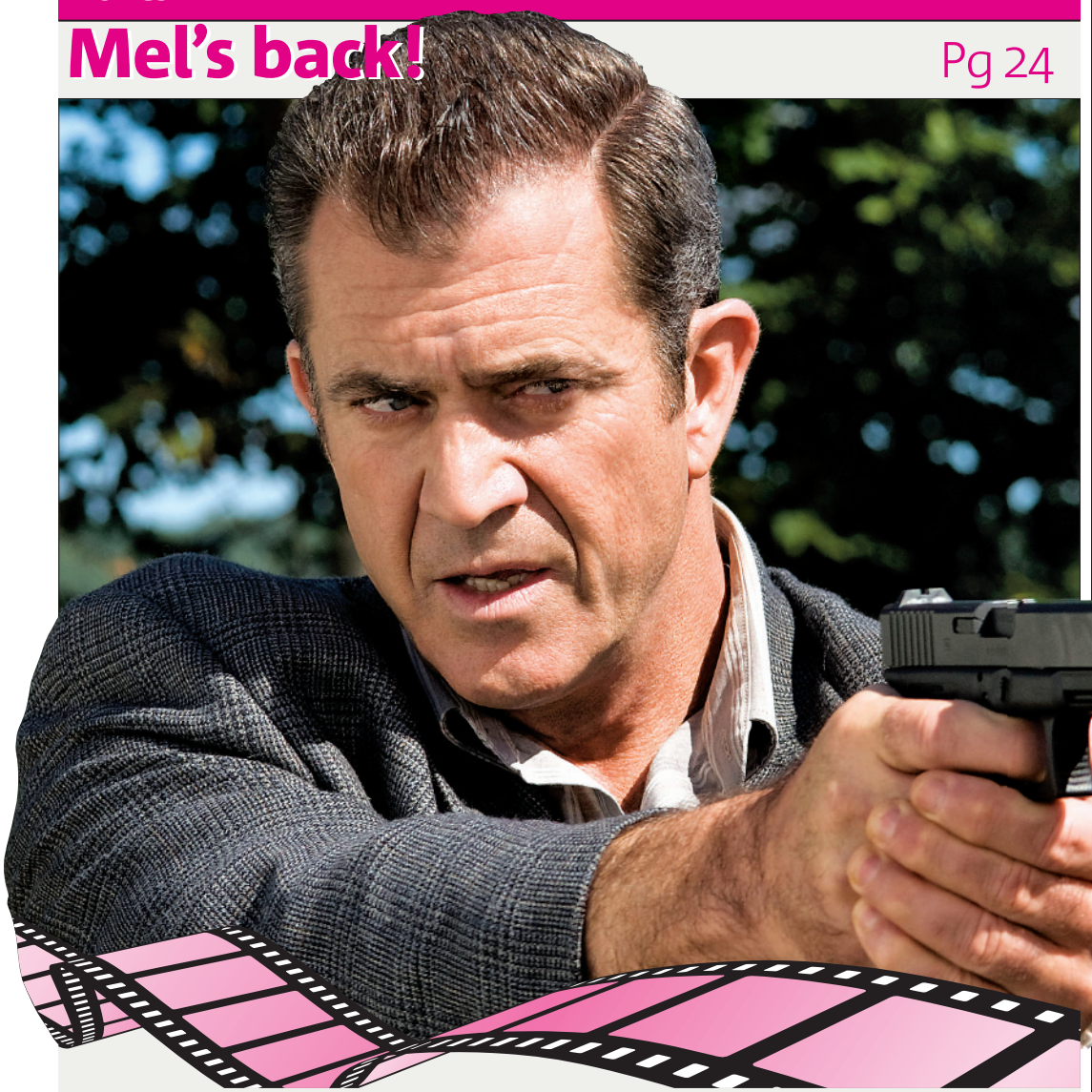
Movies&Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Movies

Mel's back!

Pg 24



After an eight-year hiatus from acting, Mel Gibson is back as a cop trying to solve his daughter's murder in Edge of Darkness.

Movies

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Creation is a hard sell to an easy-going audience.

Music

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Perry has the lowdown on Aerosmith's status.

Television

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Lucy Lawless fulfills fanboy fantasies in Spartacus.

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Movies

⊕⊕⊕⊕⊕ A CLASSIC; ⊕⊕⊕⊕ EXCELLENT; ⊕⊕⊕ GOOD; ⊕⊕ FAIR; ⊕ POOR

Mel takes Darkness to the max

Actor returns to screen after eight-year hiatus

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

Mel Gibson returns to acting with Edge of Darkness, his first lead role since 2002's Signs. The reason for such a long break is simple, he insists: He got bored.

"I walked away from it after Signs because I just felt I was a bit stale. It wasn't ringing my bells," Gibson says.

"I was just tired and bored with it, you know?" But the veteran actor and director knew he wasn't giving up for good. "You don't know. That's why I didn't make some big pronouncement, like, 'I'm quitting, I'm retiring.'"

Quitting is something very much on Gibson's mind these days, since at the time of our interview he was nine days into quitting smoking.

"The first three days, I was like an axe murderer," he confides. "It is a hellish habit to break. Your neurons are involved. My mother smoked, I think, when I was in her womb."

Quitting smoking was probably a good idea if he's going to take on more films like Edge of Darkness, in which he plays a veteran cop trying to solve his daughter's murder — and getting into plenty of scrapes along the way.

Edge of Darkness opens next Friday

One particular fight scene called for some preparation, Gibson admits. "I ordered a chiropractor for the day after, because I knew I was going to wake up like roadkill, and I did," he says. "You don't bounce back as quick as you used to, and that guy's 25 and he's taking it easy on me. It's not a pleasant experience."

Mel Gibson, left, stars in the action thriller Edge of Darkness.

Gibson's next film, The Beaver, co-starring and directed by Jodie Foster, sounds much less physical — and a lot quirkier. "It's about a guy who's clinically depressed," Gibson explains. "Circumstances somehow dictate that he finds himself with a ratty beaver hand puppet on his arm, and he manages to kind of save himself and his life and his family and everything by expressing himself through this hand puppet, because that's all he can do."

As for Gibson the director, he's eager to return to the past with a long-planned Viking film starring Leonardo DiCaprio.

"The very first idea I ever had about making a film was when I was 16 years old and I wanted to make a Viking movie," Gibson says. "And I wanted to make it in Old Norse."

Much like with The Passion of the Christ and Apocalypto, Gibson plans on using historically accurate language.

"I think it's going to be English — the English that would have been spoken back then — and Old Norse," he says.

"Whatever the ninth century had to offer. I'm going to give you real. I want a Viking to scare you. I want to see somebody who I have never seen before speaking low, guttural German who scares the living s— out of me coming up to my house."

On the web

- For movie trailers, screen times and photos — or to buy tickets — visit metronews.ca/movies.

Fairy as fun as pulling teeth

Tooth Fairy
Director: Michael Lembeck
Stars: Dwayne Johnson, Ashley Judd
Classification: G
Rating: ⊕½

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

REVIEW It must be tough being Dwayne Johnson. The man is a decent comedic actor and has right physical stature to be an action lead.

Unfortunately he made his name as the professional wrestler The Rock and that's a hard image to shake.

He might not be credited as The Rock on movie posters anymore, but audiences haven't forgotten and his projects are suitably lowbrow.

Johnson has taken Hulk Hogan's crown as the premiere former wrestler turned awkward family film leading man. Johnson's latest cinematic misstep is Tooth Fairy and it just might be his lowest moment yet.

No less than six credited writers were needed to bring this film to life and sadly none of them came up with a decent joke.

To be fair, it would be hard for anyone to mine laughs out of a concept that sees Johnson portray a violent hockey player nicknamed the Tooth Fairy (because he knocks out so many teeth on the ice) who becomes an actual tooth fairy.

Explaining how this happens would make even less sense on paper than it does on screen, but the journey somehow allows him to connect with his girlfriend's children.

Tooth Fairy is a frustrating film that should even irritate youngsters. What's odd is how many recognizable actors turned up for the train wreck.

Ashley Judd, Family Guy creator Seth Macfarlane, The Office co-creator Stephen Merchant, and even Julie Andrews all embarrass themselves at some point during the proceedings.

- For a trailer of Tooth Fairy, screen times of photos, visit metronews.ca/movies

Dawyne Johnson stars in Tooth Fairy.

BAFTA noms announced
The 2010 BAFTA nominations have been announced, and three films boast a whopping eight nominations, with Avatar, An Education and The Hurt Locker leading the pack. Just behind is District 9 with seven. **EMPIREONLINE.COM**

Movies

MOVIES EDITOR: KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Arnett amourous in Rome

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

Since the cancellation of his critically acclaimed series Arrested Development, Will Arnett has carved out a nice place for himself in the animated world, with scene-stealing voice roles in Ratatouille, Horton Hears a Who and Monsters vs. Aliens.

In this month's When in Rome, he gets his face in front of the camera again as one of four unlikely suitors bewitched into pursuing Kristen Bell.

Arnett sat down with Metro to talk about promoting a film, the state of the TV industry and those pesky Arrested Development movie updates.

Q Are you tired of people asking about the Arrested Development movie?

A I'm not bothered by it, like, "Oh, God, leave me alone." We're happy that people liked it. We were never trying to be too cool for school at all.

If anything, we wanted more people to get it. I just say, "Yeah, it's happening, for sure." I mean, it's probably more annoying for people who have to read about it.

When In Rome hits theatres next Friday

Q You've also got Jonah Hex coming up, which isn't a comedy.

A Jonah Hex is really a departure for me. I would not describe it as funny. For the first time in my career I will have failed if I make people laugh. Although I probably will. People will laugh at me trying to be serious.

Q Television comedy seems to be making a comeback. How do you see the industry now?

A With all the problems that there are in TV, the only people that they have to blame are not the viewers, but the TV business itself. They've served us up so much reality TV, which was the crack of television.

There's no lasting value to it. And from what I understand with crack, it's the same thing. But if you were to give people something that they could sink their teeth into, whether it's comedy or drama — they could resurrect TV again, and I hope that they do do it.

I hope that people's attitudes in this country start to change a little bit and become a bit more liberal. We live in such a conservative place, where you have one-hour dramas that have incredible violence and gore, and yet you can't say certain words.

It's absolutely absurd. It should be the other way around. You should be able to say "f—" and "s—" in a comedy and see nudity as opposed to letting kids see guys getting shot in the head. That's awful to look at. And yet if you had the side of a buttock, people would be up in arms. How absurd in that?

Will Arnett stars in When In Rome. out next Friday.

Creation's a rewarding ride

Creation
Director: Jon Amiel
Stars: Jennifer Connelly and Paul Bettany
Classification: STC
Rating: ●●●½

ANNE BRODIE
for Metro Canada

Creation is a difficult sell, but rewarding for patient audiences.

REVIEW Creation's the kind of emotional love story that should have audiences dabbing tears, while dazzled from the sheer beauty of the look of it.

But it's hard to imagine that filmgoers will embrace its story of faith versus science and death set in a distant Victorian past, so it's up to stellar performances and awesome cinematography to evolve into ticket sales.

Naturalist Charles Darwin (Paul Bettany) changed modern thought with the release of his ground breaking book On the Origin of Species, the scientific treatise that sent shockwaves through the "civilised" world with its premise that the world evolved naturally without God's help. It followed years of studies which took him around the world to undiscovered exotic locales where he formulated his theories.

Emma Darwin (Bettany's wife Jennifer Connelly) was a devout Christian who regarded them as blasphemous. Their philosophical conflict remained polite but the deaths of their infant son and, in the midst of Darwin's scientific endeavours, his favourite child Annie (Martha West) died, sending them both reeling.

Darwin's devastation accelerates the mental and physical strains of years of overwork and his efforts to calm himself through drugs and weird water cures widened the gap between them.

In all, Creation is a difficult sell to easy going, pleasure seeking audiences who like their gratification instant and preferably in the here and now.

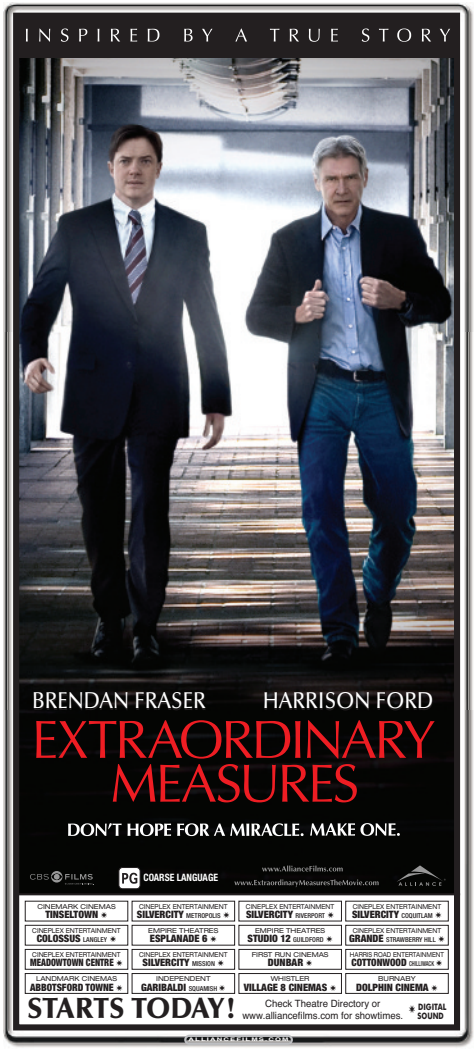
Creation has its strengths; it is emotional without being sentimental, clear headed, beautifully directed and gorgeous to look at. Bettany's bravura performance runs the gamut of joy, creativity, clarity, and extreme focus through to madness. His rawness in dealing with reality and his remaining children after Annie's death is heart-tuggingly poignant. His keen sense of humour — in the stories she tells the children and in vignettes of his work with a chimp — helps the story go down.

Connelly dares to be unsympathetic in a raw, heartbreaking performance as a grieving mother who fears for her husband's soul. But the wonky English accent is a constant distraction — almost as much as her beauty. The part's not a stretch for her having done the icy but supportive wife of a mad scientist before in A Beautiful Mind.

Amiel's flights of fancy that shorthand his theory of evolution are worth the price of admission — a bird falls from its nest, decays, provide food for parasites, whose numbers grow and enrich the earth where new life springs forth. The cycle of life in all its cruelty and beauty sweeping by in a few seconds is genius, and mirrored in the Darwin household.

Creation is an admirable piece of work in many ways, but it is heavy hearted and oppressive, which while understandable considering the family's experiences, is difficult. The landscape and interiors mirror the emotional beats in fascinating ways and the whiff of exoticism in Darwin's travels on the Beagle and the stories he tells, leaven the experience. For audiences willing to go the distance, it's a rewarding and interesting ride.

• For a trailer of Creation, screen times and photos, visit metronews.ca/movies



Lovelace biopic in works

Allan Ginsberg biopic Howl premiered at the Sundance Film Festival Thursday, but directors Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman have already lined up their next film, and it's Lovelace, the story of Deep Throat star Linda Lovelace. EMPIREONLINE.COM

Reel Time

A CLASSIC; EXCELLENT; GOOD; FAIR; POOR

Measures too ordinary

Brendan Fraser's character tries to find a cure for a disease affecting his kids in Extraordinary Measures.

Extraordinary **Measures**

Director: Tom Vaughan
Stars: Harrison Ford, Brendan Fraser, Keri Russell
Classification: PG
Rating:

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Extraordinary Measures was created with good intentions, but it just can't escape an unfortunate "disease of the week" TV movie quality.

Though based on a true story, the screenplay is so rife with clichés and obvious emotional manipulation that it doesn't just tug on your heartstrings, but pulls on them with such brute force that you'll want to file assault charges by the time the credits roll.

There is the nucleus for a touching movie somewhere in the material, but unfortunately the filmmakers never quite found it.

Brendan Fraser stars as John Crowley, a man who abandons his high paying job in an attempt to find a cure for the rare disease that threatens to take his children's lives.

Despite having no background in science or medicine, Crowley seeks out the radical Dr. Stonehill (Harrison Ford) to form a partnership. Together they find funding at a high profile medical facility and set out to discover a cure.

John Crowley is a real man who did quit his job to save his ailing children and his story worthy of a film, just not one with a badass scientist who rocks out to loud music while staring into his microscope and countless scenes of actors getting weepy and looking thoughtfully off screen rather than expressing real emotions.

You've seen Extraordinary Measures many times before. The filmmakers made no attempt to avoid the trappings of the "terminally ill children" genre of cheap melodrama.

Harrison Ford is admittedly funny as a surly scientist, but he plays a snarky movie character that is awkwardly wedged into a true story. Brendan Fraser does his best as John Crowley, but sadly his role is limited to pouting and appearing stressed for 90 minutes until he can finally smile in the last reel.

John Crowley's story is certainly unique and inspiring enough to warrant a movie. This just isn't the one he deserves.

• For a trailer of Extraordinary Measures, screen times of photos, visit metronews.ca/movies

Brisk Life high on actors

High **Life**

Director:
Stars: Timothy Olyphant
Classification: STC
Rating:

ADAM NAYMAN
for Metro Canada

A group of drug-addled parolees go on a crime spree in Canadian crime thriller High Life, based on Lee McDougall's play.

REVIEW The best joke in High Life is also the first, as the film's main character — a washed-out parolee/morphine addict played by Timothy Olyphant — informs us via voice-over that, as far back as he could remember, he had always wanted to be a lawyer.

It's a winking paraphrase of Ray Liotta's scene-setting reminiscence in Goodfellas, and while Gary Yates' Winnipeg-set period thriller isn't a patch on Martin Scorcese's 1990 classic, it does reiterate one of its key themes: being a criminal is especially difficult when you're high as a kite.

Dick's multi-part plan to defraud a series of ATM machines (brand new as of the film's 1983 setting) is actually pretty clever, but populating his crew with three fellow junkies — including his brutal former cellmate (Stephen McIntyre) and a callow ladies' man he meets at an addiction support group (Rossif Sutherland) — is a less-than-genius move.

Yates, who showed a deft touch in the grafter tale Seven Times Lucky, does well in opening up Lee McDougall's award-winning play for the screen, aided in so small part by his game cast.

Olyphant gives a nicely straightforward performance, ceding most of the best lines to the glowering McIntyre.

Seasoned viewers will likely predict at least a few of the film's second-half twists, but High Life understands that it's best to quit while you're ahead: its 78-minute running time leaves a winning impression of briskness.

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Coens showing True Grit on Christmas Day

The Coen Brothers' remake of the classic True Grit for Paramount Pictures will be hitting theaters on Christmas Day of 2010. The remake of the 1969 western stars Jeff Bridges as U.S. Marshal Rooster Cogburn, the character initially played by John Wayne. IMDB.COM

Reel Time

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Helen Mirren on the The Last Station platform

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

Oscar-winning actress Helen Mirren takes on another towering historical figure in The Last Station, playing Sofya Tolstoy, the fiery wife of the great Russian author at odds with his philosophies and disciples.

Q How do you make a character as melodramatic as Sofya sympathetic?

A Because she's a drama queen, you could alienate the audience really fast. You don't want the audience to necessarily like or or love her, but to go along with her. You had to feel that this is just how she felt, this was real for her. When I watch the film, there's one moment when I blow it. I look at that, those awful moments when you see yourself and you go, "Oh, you shouldn't do that. That's wrong, wrong, wrong." And there it is, and you can't take it back.

Q What was it about Sofya that made you want to take on the role?

A Oh, my God. What do you think? That kind of volcanic creature ... Also, I was sent it very soon after I'd done The Queen, and as a actor your dream is to get something that's the opposite of what you've just done. Obviously, The Queen is such a repressed, interior character who doesn't show anything. Sofya is the absolute opposite.

Q Is playing a countess a demotion after playing so many queens?

A You know, every actress who gets to be the kind of age I am always gets to play a queen or two because very often they are interesting roles that we want to write plays or films about. So it's not just me who gets to play queens. Most actresses have gotten to play a queen or two.

Q Once again, you've been courting some Oscar buzz. Are you looking forward to awards season?

A Last time, I just was constantly sitting through these long, endless evenings. I was always the last one up. It was brutal. "Just let me get home, please. Let me drink." I could never drink. Everyone else was having a ball and I'm just sitting there. But it's so important for this kind of film for things like that to happen. It's a small film, it doesn't have a big marketing budget. And with these little independent films, it's getting so hard to get them out there at all. And in the next few years it might become even more difficult. I love the big movies. Avatar is fabulous. But the library of film has got to be broader than that.

Q And up next you star in an adaptation of Shakespeare's The Tempest, only with a gender reversal.

A It was to give me a great Shakespearean role to play, because Shakespeare, damn him, gave crap female roles.

They're all crap. Even Rosalind is crap. I mean, she talks a lot, but it's not a great role. And as you get older, they really drop away. So the only way for me to get to play a good Shakespearean role is to change the gender. With Prospero, you can change it into a woman without changing very much of the text. In fact, one of Prospero's speeches is lifted lock, stock and barrel from Madea.

Shakespeare just took it. It's incredible. Like, three words are changed.

Helen Mirren and Anne-Marie Duff in The Last Station.

Last Station is in theatres next Friday

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It's Complicated (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:15-6:50-9:20
Snow Blind (STC) Thu 7
Up in the Air (PG) Fri-Thu 2-4:30-7:10-9:30
The Young Victoria (G) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:45-7-9:05

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Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (G) Fri 6:50-9:25 Sat-Sun 1:20-4:05-6:50-9:25 Mon-Thu 6-8:05
The Blind Side (PG) Fri 6:45-9:35 Sat-Sun 1:05-3:55-6:45-9:35 Mon-Thu 5:35-8:25
Did You Hear About the Morgans? (PG) Fri-Sun 9:15 Mon-Thu 8:10
An Education (PG) Fri 6:55-9:20 Sat-Sun 1:25-4:10-6:55-9:20 Mon-Thu 5:45-8:15
Invictus (PG) Fri 6:40-9:30 Sat-Sun 1-3:50-6:40-9:30 Mon-Wed 5:30-8:20
The Princess and the Frog (G) Fri 7:10 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:15-7:10 Mon-Thu 5:50
The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Fri 7-9:40 Sat-Sun 1:15-4-7-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:30

HOLLYWOOD THEATRE
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hollywoodtheatre.ca

2012 (PG) Fri 7:30 Sat-Sun 3:20-7:30 Mon-Thu 7:30
Where the Wild Things Are (G) Sat-Sun 1:30
Zombieland (18A) Fri-Thu 10:10

OAKRIDGE
650 West 41st Ave., 604-263-1944

Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (G) DTS Digital Fri 7-9:15 DTS Digital Sat-Sun 1-4-7-9:15 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 5:30-7:45
The Book of Eli (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri 7:15-10 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Sat-Sun 1:15-4:15-7:15-10 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 5:15-8:15
Sherlock Holmes (PG) DTS Digital Fri 6:45-9:45 DTS Digital Sat-Sun 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:45 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 5-8

PACIFIC CINÉMATHÈQUE
1131 Howe Street, 604-688-3456
cinematheque.bc.ca

I Don't Want to Sleep Alone (STC) Fri 9
In the Mood for Love (PG) Fri 7
No Films Showing Today (STC) Tue
Vancouver International Film Festival (STC) Sat-Mon Wed-Thu

PARK THEATRE
3440 Cambie Street, 604-876-2747

Avatar 3D (14A) Fri 3:30-7:10:15 Sat-Sun 12-3:30-7:10:15 Mon-Thu 3:30-7:10:15

RIDGE THEATRE
3131 Arbutus Street, 604-738-6311

The Lovely Bones (PG) Fri 4-7-9:40 Sat-Sun 1:15-4-7-9:40 Mon-Thu 4-7-9:40
The Royal Ballet - Swan Lake (STC) A.M. Sat 10

RIO ON BROADWAY
1660 E. Broadway, 604-878-Film
riotheatre.ca

Avatar (14A) Fri 4:30-8 Sat 1-4:30-8 Sun-Thu 4:30-8
The Big Lebowski (14A) Fri 12
Kingpin (STC) Fri

SCOTIABANK THEATRE VANCOUVER
900 Burrard St., 604-630-1407

Avatar 3D (14A) Fri-Tue 11:15-11:45-3:3:30-6:40-7:10-10:30-10:50 Wed 11:15-11:45-3:3:30-7:10-10:30-10:50 Thu 11:15-11:45-3:3:30-6:40-7:10-10:30-10:50
The Book of Eli (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:25
Daybreakers (18A) Fri-Tue 1:50-4:50-7:45-10:40 Wed 1:50-4:50-10:40 Thu 1:50-4:50-7:45-10:40
Legion (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:20-4:10-7:20-10:10
The Metropolitan Opera: Les Contes d'Hoffmann Encore (STC) Sat 10
Race Across the Sky (G) Wed 7
Sherlock Holmes (PG) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:20-7-10:15
A Single Man (PG) Fri 12-3:40-6:30-9:20 Sat 3:40-6:30-9:20 Sun-Thu 12-3:40-6:30-9:20
Up in the Air (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4-6:50-9:50
Youth in Revolt (14A) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:40-7:40-10:20

TINSELTOWN
International Village, 88 West Pender, 3rd floor, 604-806-0799
cinemark.com

Broken Embraces (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 4:25-9:50
Creation (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:50-10:25
Extraordinary Measures (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 2:10-4:40-7:15-9:45
Fantastic Mr. Fox (G) Fri-Thu 9:30
The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus (PG) Fri-Thu 2-4:50-7:40-10:20
It's Complicated (PG) Fri-Thu 2:20-5:05-7:45-10:35
Leap Year (PG) Fri-Tue 12:05-2:25-4:45-7:05 Wed 12:05-2:25-4:45 Thu 12:05-2:25-4:45-7:05
The Lovely Bones (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12-3:6:05-9 No Passes Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30
Nine (PG) Fri-Thu 1:50-4:35-7:35-10:15
Precious: Based on the Novel ``Push'' by Sapphire (14A) Fri-Thu 1:45-7:20
The Spy Next Door (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:20-2:35-4:55-7:10-9:25
Tooth Fairy (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:10-2:30-5-7:25-9:55
The White Ribbon (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:40-3:50-7:10:10

VANCITY THEATRE
Vancouver International Film Centre
1181 Seymour Street, 604-683-Film
vifc.org

Antichrist (R) Fri 6:30-10:30 Sat-Mon 8:30
Day of Wrath (STC) Fri 8:30 Sat 6:30
Nixon (STC) Sun 1
No Films Showing Today (STC) Tue
Sparx FX Film Festival (STC) Wed-Thu

VAN EAST CINEMA
2290 Commercial Drive, 604-251-1313
vaneast.com

The Book of Eli (14A) Fri-Wed 7-9:20 Thu 7

NORTH SHORE

ESPLANADE 6
200 West Esplanade, 604-983-2762

The Book of Eli (14A) Fri 6:45-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:45-3:30-6:45-9:40 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:40
Extraordinary Measures (PG) Digital Presentation Fri 7:20-9:45 Digital Presentation Sat-Sun 1:10-3:40-7:20-9:45 Digital Presentation Mon-Thu 7:20-9:45
Leap Year (PG) Fri 6:35 Sat-Sun 1:25-4:10-6:35 Mon-Thu 6:35
Sherlock Holmes (PG) Digital Presentation Fri 7-9:50 Digital Presentation Sat-Sun 1-4-7-9:50 Digital Presentation Mon-Thu 7-9:50
The Spy Next Door (PG) Fri 7:10-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:20-3:45-7:10-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:30
Up in the Air (PG) Fri 7:30-10 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:30-7:30-10 Mon-Thu 7:30-10
Youth in Revolt (14A) Fri-Thu 9:20

PARK & TILFORD
333 Brooksbank Ave., 604-985-3911

Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (G) Fri 7:10 Sat 2:30-4:45-7:10 Sun 12:20-2:30-4:45-7:10 Mon-Tue 7:10 Wed 9:45 Thu 7:10
Avatar (14A) Fri-Tue 9:30 Thu 9:30
Avatar 3D (14A) Fri 6:40-10:10 Sat-Sun 12-3:20-6:40-10:10 Mon-Thu 6:40-10:10
It's Complicated (PG) Fri 6:30-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:10-3:10-6:30-9:40 Mon-Tue 6:30-9:40 Wed 9:40 Thu 6:30-9:40
Legion (14A) No Passes Fri 7:20-10 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:30-3:50-7:20-10 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:20-10
The Lovely Bones (PG) No Passes Fri 6:50-9:50 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:50-9:50 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:50-9:50 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Thu 1
The Metropolitan Opera: Les Contes d'Hoffmann Encore (STC) Sat 10
Race Across the Sky (G) Wed 7
Tooth Fairy (G) No Passes Fri 7-9:20 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:50-3:30-7-9:20 No Passes Mon-Thu 7-9:20 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Thu 1

RICHMOND

RICHMOND CENTRE 6
6551 #3 Road, 604-273-7173

Avatar (14A) Fri 3:25-6:50-10:15 Sat 12-3:25-6:50-10:15 Sun 12-3:25-6:50 Mon-Thu 4:25-7:45
The Book of Eli (14A) No Passes Fri 3:45-7:20-10 No Passes Sat 12:05-3:45-7:20-10 No Passes Sun 12:05-3:45-7:20 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:30-7:20
Extraordinary Measures (PG) Fri 3:50-7:10-9:50 Sat 12:20-3:50-7:10-9:50 Sun 12:20-3:50-7:10 Mon-Thu 4:40-7:10
Sherlock Holmes (PG) Fri 3:40-7:05-10:05 Sat 12:15-3:40-7:05-10:05 Sun 12:15-3:40-7:05 Mon-Thu 4:15-7:05
The Spy Next Door (PG) Fri 3:55-7:15-9:40 Sat 12:25-3:55-7:15-9:40 Sun 12:25-3:55-7:15 Mon-Thu 4:35-7:15
Tooth Fairy (G) No Passes Fri 3:35-7-9:30 No Passes Sat 12:10-3:35-7-9:30 No Passes Sun 12:10-3:35-7 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:20-7

SILVERCITY RIVERPORT
14211 Entertainment Way, 604-272-7280

3 Idiots (PG) Fri-Thu 9:25
Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (G) Fri-Thu 11:45-3:55-6:50
Avatar 3D (14A) Fri-Thu 11-1:30-2:40-5:30-6:35-9:30-10:35
Avatar: An IMAX 3D Experience (14A) Fri-Thu 11:30-3-6:30-10
The Blind Side (PG) Fri 11:50-4-7:10-10:20 Sat 4-7:10-10:20 Sun-Thu 11:50-4-7:10-10:20
The Book of Eli (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12-1:05-3:15-4-6:55-7:25-10-10:30
Daybreakers (18A) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:50-7:45-10:30
Extraordinary Measures (PG) Fri-Wed 1:10-3:55-7:15-10:15 Thu 3:55-7:15-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
It's Complicated (PG) Fri-Wed 1-3:50-7:05-10:05 Thu 3:50-7:05-10:05 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Leap Year (PG) Fri-Tue 12:15-4:10-7:20-10:10 Wed 12:15-4:30-10:10 Thu 12:15-4:10-7:20-10:10
Legion (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:45-4:05-7:30-10:40
The Lovely Bones (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-3:45-7:10-10:35
The Metropolitan Opera: Les Contes d'Hoffmann Encore (STC) Sat 10
The Princess and the Frog (G) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:25-6:50
Race Across the Sky (G) Wed 7
Sherlock Holmes (PG) Fri-Thu 12:10-3:35-7-10:25
The Spy Next Door (PG) Fri-Thu 11:15-2-4:45-7:35-10:25
Tooth Fairy (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:50-3:30-6:45-9:40
Up in the Air (PG) Fri-Thu 11:45-3:20-7:10:10
Veer (STC) Fri-Thu 12:45-5-9:15
Youth in Revolt (14A) Fri-Thu 10:15

BURNABY

DOLPHIN CINEMAS
4555 E. Hastings St., 604-293-0332

Extraordinary Measures (PG) Fri 7-9 Sat-Sun 1-3:5-7-9 Mon-Thu 7-9
The Spy Next Door (PG) Fri 7-9 Sat-Sun 1-3:5-7-9 Mon-Thu 7-9

SILVERCITY METROPOLIS
4700 Kingsway Ave., 604-435-7474

Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (G) Fri-Thu 11:35-2-4:20-6:45-9:15
Avatar 3D (14A) Fri-Thu 11:30-11:45-3-3:20-6:30-7:10-10:15-10:45
The Book of Eli (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:25-3:40-7:20-10:20
Daybreakers (18A) Fri-Thu 12:40-4-7:40-10:35
Extraordinary Measures (PG) Fri-Thu 12-3:10-7:10
Legion (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:20-3:45-7:25-10:30
The Lovely Bones (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30-6:50-10:20
Sherlock Holmes (PG) Fri-Thu 12:15-3:35-7:35-10:40
The Spy Next Door (PG) Fri-Thu 11:50-2:10-4:30-6:55-9:25

STATION SQUARE
220-6200 McKay Ave., 604-434-7711

The Blind Side (PG) Fri 4-7:10 Sat 1-4-7:10 Sun 1-4-7 Mon-Thu 4-7
It's Complicated (PG) Fri 4:05-7:05-10:10 Sat 1:05-4:05-7:05-10:10 Sun 1:05-4:05-7:10 Mon-Thu 4:05-7:10
Leap Year (PG) Fri 4:15-7:15-10:15 Sat 1:15-4:15-7:15-10:15 Sun 1:15-4:15-7:15 Mon-Thu 4:15-7:15
The Princess and the Frog (G) Fri 4:25-7:25 Sat 1:25-4:25-7:25 Sun 1:25-4:25 Mon-Thu 4:25
Tooth Fairy (G) No Passes Fri 4:10-7:10-10:20 No Passes Sat 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:20 No Passes Sun 1:10-4:10-7:20 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:10-7:20
The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Fri-Sat 10:05 Sun-Thu 7:05
Up in the Air (PG) Fri 4:20-7:20-10:25 Sat 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:25 Sun 1:20-4:20-7:25 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:25
Youth in Revolt (14A) Fri 4:30-7:30-10:30 Sat 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Sun 1:30-4:30-7:30 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:30

NEW WEST/ COQUITLAM

SILVERCITY COQUITLAM
170 Schoolhouse Street, 604-523-2911

Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (G) Fri-Thu 12:2:25-4:55-7:20
Avatar (14A) Fri-Thu 9:45
Avatar 3D (14A) Fri-Thu 11:30-12:15-3:10-4:15-7-8:15-10:45
The Blind Side (PG) Fri-Tue 11:50-3:25-6:50-10:10 Wed 11:50-3:25-10:10 Thu 11:50-3:25-6:50-10:10
The Book of Eli (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:40-1:10-2:55-4:30-7:10-7:40-10:05-10:35
Daybreakers (18A) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:25-7:10-10:25
Extraordinary Measures (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:45-7:05-9:55
The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus (PG) Fri 11:55-3:20-7:20-10:30 Sat 3:20-7:20-10:30 Sun-Thu 11:55-3:20-7:20-10:30
Invictus (PG) Fri-Thu 10:40
It's Complicated (PG) Fri-Thu 12:35-4-7:25-10:20
Leap Year (PG) Fri-Tue 12:10-3:30-6:45-9:50 Wed 3:30-6:45-9:50 Thu 12:10-3:30-6:45-9:50 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Legion (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:25-3:35-7:10-10:20
The Lovely Bones (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:10-3:15-6:50-10:05
The Princess and the Frog (G) Fri-Thu 11:30-2-4:30-7:10
Race Across the Sky (G) Wed 7
Sherlock Holmes (PG) Fri-Thu 12:35-4-7:25-10:40
The Spy Next Door (PG) Fri-Thu 11:35-2:15-4:45-7:40-10
Tooth Fairy (G) No Passes Fri-Tue 12:20-3:50-6:55-9:55 No Passes Wed 3:50-6:55-9:55 No Passes Thu 12:20-3:50-6:55-9:55 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Up in the Air (PG) Fri-Thu 12:35-4:05-7:35-10:25
Youth in Revolt (14A) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:55-6:55-9:45

SURREY/WHITE ROCK/LANGLEY

CLOVA
5732-176th St., Surrey, 604-541-9527

Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (G) Sat-Sun 1:30
The Blind Side (PG) Sat 4
Daybreakers (18A) Fri-Thu 9:25
Sherlock Holmes (PG) Fri-Thu 7

HOLLYWOOD 3 CINEMA
7125-138th Street, Surrey, 604-592-4441

2012 (PG) Fri-Thu 4:30
The Blind Side (PG) Fri 6:50 Sat-Sun 2:30-6:50 Mon-Thu 6:50
Daybreakers (18A) Fri-Thu 9:15
It's Complicated (PG) Fri-Thu 7
Leap Year (PG) Fri 7:25 Sat-Sun 2:30-7:25 Mon-Thu 7:25
Old Dogs (G) Fri 5 Sat-Sun 12:30-5 Mon-Thu 5
Planet 51 (G) Sat-Sun 12:30-2:30
The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Fri-Thu 4:30
Up in the Air (PG) Fri 9:15 Sat-Sun 12:15-9:15 Mon-Thu 9:15
Youth in Revolt (14A) Fri-Thu 9:20

STRAWBERRY HILL GRANDE
12161-72nd Ave, Surrey, 604-501-9400

3 Idiots (PG) Fri-Thu 12:10-4:10-7:50
Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (G) Fri-Thu 12-2:20-4:40-6:50
Avatar (14A) Fri-Thu 9
Avatar 3D (14A) Fri-Thu 11:45-3:20-7:10:35
The Book of Eli (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1-4-7:15-10:15
Chance Pe Dance (PG) Fri-Tue 12:30-3:45-6:55-9:50 Wed 12:30-3:45-9:50 Thu 12:30-3:45-6:55-9:50
Extraordinary Measures (PG) Fri-Tue 1:20-3:55-7:25-10:10 Wed 3:55-7:25-10:10 Thu 1:20-3:55-7:25-10:10 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Legion (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:10-4:05-7:30-10:25
The Lovely Bones (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:20-3:40-7:05-10:05
Race Across the Sky (G) Wed 7
Sherlock Holmes (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:50-7:20-10:20
The Spy Next Door (PG) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:15-6:45-9:30
Tooth Fairy (G) No Passes Fri-Tue 1:30-4:30-7:10-9:40 No Passes Wed 4:30-7:10-9:40 No Passes Thu 1:30-4:30-7:10-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Veer (STC) Fri-Thu 12:40-4:20-8

STUDIO 12 GUILDFORD
15051-101st Ave, Surrey, 604-581-1176

Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:45-4:30-6:55-9:15
Avatar (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:30-3:30-5:30-7:30-9:30
The Book of Eli (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Sun 1:25-4:25-7:20-10:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:25-4:25-7:20-10:10
Daybreakers (18A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 4:45-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 9:55
Extraordinary Measures (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 1:15-4:15-6:50-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu
Leap Year (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:50-7:25
Legion (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thu 1:20-4:20-7:15-10:15
The Lovely Bones (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Sun 1:05-4:05-7:05-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Wed 1:05-4:05-7:05-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 4:05-7:05-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 1
Sherlock Holmes (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-4-7:10
The Spy Next Door (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:40-4:40-7:10
Tooth Fairy (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:35-4:10-6:45-9:20
Veer (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10-4:35-8
Youth in Revolt (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 9:50

RIALTO
1732-152nd Street, White Rock, 604-541-9527, criteriontheatres.com

It's Complicated (PG) Fri 7-9:20 Sat-Sun 2-7-9:20 Mon-Thu 7-9:20
Up in the Air (PG) Fri 7:15-9:25 Sat-Sun 2:10-7:15-9:25 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:25

CRITERION 4 WHITE ROCK
2381 King George Highway, 604-531-7456, criteriontheatres.com

The Book of Eli (14A) No Passes Fri 7:20-9:45 No Passes Sat-Sun 2:20-7:20-9:45 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:20-9:45
The Lovely Bones (PG) Fri 7-9:35 Sat-Sun 2-7-9:35 Mon-Thu 7-9:35
Sherlock Holmes (PG) Fri 7:10-9:40 Sat-Sun 2:10-7:10-9:40 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:40
Tooth Fairy (G) Fri 7:30-9:30 Sat-Sun 3:15-7:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:30-9:30

COLOSSUS LANGLEY
20090-91A Ave, Langley, 604-513-8747

Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (G) Fri-Sun 1:05-4:05-6:40-9:30 Mon-Thu 4:05-6:40-9:30
Avatar 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 11-11:45-2:30-3:20-6:15-7:10-10:15-10:45 Mon-Thu 4:30-5:30-9:10
Avatar: An IMAX 3D Experience (14A) Fri-Sun 11:30-3-6:30-10 Mon-Thu 3:30-7:10:30
The Blind Side (PG) Fri-Sun 12:35-3:50-7:10-10:20 Mon-Thu 3:50-7:10-10:20
The Book of Eli (14A) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:10-3:35-7:05-10:05 No Passes Mon-Thu 3:35-7:05-10:05 No Passes Fri-Sun 12:40-4-7:30-10:40 No Passes Mon-Thu 4-7:30-10:30
Daybreakers (18A) Fri-Sun 1-4:10-7:40-10:35 Mon-Thu 4:10-7:25-10:05
Extraordinary Measures (PG) Fri-Sun 12-3:35-7:05-10 Mon-Tue 3:35-7:05-10 Wed 7:05-10 Thu 3:35-7:05-10 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 3
The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus (PG) Fri-Thu 9:50
It's Complicated (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:45-6:55-9:55 Mon-Thu 3:45-6:55-9:55
Leap Year (PG) Fri-Sun 12:20-4:25-7:35-10:25 Mon-Tue 4:25-7:35-10:25 Wed 4:25-10:25 Thu 4:25-7:35-10:25
Legion (14A) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:50-3:40-7:25-10:10 No Passes Mon-Thu 3:40-7:25-10:10
The Lovely Bones (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 11:55-3:30-6:55-10:20 No Passes Mon-Thu 3:30-6:55-10:20
The Metropolitan Opera: Les Contes d'Hoffmann Encore (STC) Sat 10
The Princess and the Frog (G) Fri-Sun 12:55-3:55-6:50 Mon-Thu 3:55-6:50
Race Across the Sky (G) Wed 7
Sherlock Holmes (PG) Fri-Sun 12:15-3:40-7:20-10:30 Mon-Thu 3:40-7:20-10:30
The Spy Next Door (PG) Fri-Sun 12:05-4:15-7:20-10:10 Mon-Thu 4:15-7:20-10:10
Tooth Fairy (G) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:25-3:50-7:10-9:45 No Passes Mon-Tue 3:50-7:10-9:45 No Passes Wed 7:10-9:45 No Passes Thu 3:50-7:10-9:45 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 3
Up in the Air (PG) Fri-Sun 12:45-4:20-7:15-10:25 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:15-10:25
Youth in Revolt (14A) Fri 1:15-4:05-7:30-10:30 Sat 4:05-7:30-10:30 Sun 1:15-4:05-7:30-10:30 Mon-Thu 4:05-7:30-10:30

Billboard's top albums

1. Contra, Vampire Weekend, left; 2. I Dreamed a Dream, Susan Boyle; 3. Animal, Ke$ha; 4. The Fame, Lady Gaga; The Element of Freedom, Alicia Keys. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Music

Back from the dead

Money key to rock reunions

SoundCheck

The biggest promoters and management companies know that if the bag of money on the table is big enough, there's a 99 per cent chance they can convince a band to reunite.

This formula resulted in the resurrection of dead-forever bands like Rage Against the Machine, My Bloody Valentine and the Jesus and Mary Chain. What's in store for 2010?

Soundgarden: Given the alleged money issues involving their old manager (who, for added drama, is singer Chris Cornell's ex-wife; it was a nasty divorce) and the fact that drummer Matt Cameron is a happiest guy to ever play drums for Pearl Jam, I would have bet the mortgage against this ever happening. Details are still being worked out, but watch for a summer tour and some kind of box set in time for Christmas.

Hole: Waiting for Courtney to release her Nobody's Daughter album has been like expecting Godot to return with those promised double-doubles from Tim Hortons. We still don't have a release date for the CD, but Hole — with Courtney as the only original member — will play a short tour starting in London on Feb. 17.

The Plastic Ono Band: That same night in New York, Yoko will caterwaul for one last night. On Feb. 17, she'll be joined by son Sean, Eric Clapton, Paul Simon, Bette Midler, Thurston Moore and Kim Gordon from Sonic Youth, members of the Scissor Sisters and whomever else she can round up.

Suede: Excitement amongst Brit-pop fans has been muted since this reunion seems to be just a one-off thing for charity and that it won't feature original guitarist Bernard Butler.

Pavement: We were advised a year in advance that the California lo-fi boffins would be reuniting for a multi-night run in New York's Central Park this September. Since then, though, plans have expanded considerably. Rehearsals start next month with the first gig set for Auckland, New Zealand March 1 followed by Australia, Japan, the U.K. and Europe before they land in Toronto on June 19.

The Pointed Sticks: This Vancouver power pop band released their first album in 1980, broke up in 1981 and then reformed in 2006 for the occasional gig. Twenty-nine years after the first record, they've released a second, Three Lefts Make a Right. No rush, then.

The Ongoing History Of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at ongoinghistory.com and exploremusic.com

Have Guitar, Will Travel

Aerosmith split allowed Joe Perry to record new album

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada

Joe Perry, Aerosmith's famous guitarist might have a new album out, but there's only one thing his army of fans likely want to know about: What's happened to his band?

If you haven't heard, after a November concert in Abu Dhabi, Aerosmith's frontman Steven Tyler quit the band; Perry found out by reading a story online. Since then Perry and his longtime songwriting partner haven't spoken — he's called a couple times, but hasn't heard back.

"It's a shame," says Perry, still confused by Tyler's departure. "He didn't say anything to us, it wasn't planned."

In fact, the band was working on a record with Brendan O'Brien, but Tyler, says Perry, "didn't seem interested in it."

Tyler, who's now in drug rehab, has said he still wants to play with the group, but Perry's already making arrangements to keep Aerosmith going without his musical cohort.

"I'm hoping that some of the rumours (of Tyler's return) are true but we'll see what happens," he says. "We are looking for a new singer."

When Tyler left, the band was forced to cancel gigs and their recording plans. That gave Perry the chance to put together Have Guitar, Will Travel, his fourth solo record. The guitarist admits that it was refreshing to work on this disc, especially since he's disliked the last few Aerosmith releases.

"We haven't released a great studio record in 10 years," he says. "The music we were putting out wasn't turning my crank. It was material that I didn't like. We started working with outside songwriters and it was going in a direction wasn't happy with, so I was inspired to lay down songs that I enjoyed playing and listening back to. I haven't listened to the last couple of Aerosmith records."

Joe Perry says he and Steven Tyler haven't spoken since Tyler abruptly left the band in November.

"I'm hoping that some of the rumours (of Tyler's return) are true but we'll see what happens. We are looking for a new singer."
Joe Perry

It's a good thing then that his new record doesn't sound like an Aerosmith disc. It's an eclectic mix of blues and rock with crunchy guitars, speedy solos and classic hooks. While Perry sings on most of the tracks, he did hire a German guy named Hagen — his wife discovered him on YouTube — to lend his vocals to some of the more higher pitched melodies. While he holds his own, he does sound a lot like Tyler.

If anything does resemble Aerosmith (and parts do) Perry says he can't help it, and he doesn't mind.

"It's inevitable that some of the things will sound like what Aerosmith does," he explains. "I'm one of the two major songwriters in that band, so it's only natural you're going to hear that."

In Concert

- The Joe Perry Project and Mötley Crüe play General Motors Place Sunday.

Harvey: new Family Feud host
The TV game show Family Feud is getting a new referee. Series producer FremantleMedia North America said comedian Steve Harvey will take over as host from John O'Hurley when the syndicated show begins its new season next fall. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Going Out

Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot right now

1 Kitchen Nightmares Season 3

TV Sloppy restaurateurs, take cover. Chef Gordon Ramsay is back for another round of sniffing out rogue eateries and tongue-lashing their staff into serving up better fare. Premieres Tuesday on Fox. Check local listings for time.

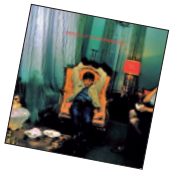
2 Sundance Film Festival

FEST So what if it takes place in faraway Utah? If you are a film fan, you will be keeping an eye on this indie showcase. Howl (starring James Franco as Allen Ginsberg) and Restrepo (a documentary on Afghanistan) open the fest this year. There's plenty of Canadian fare too, including Grown Up Movie Star and Splice, featuring Sarah Polley.

3 SAG Awards

SHOW Perhaps the only Avatar-free awards gala you'll see this year. The Screen Actor's Guild honours its members for their thespian skills tomorrow with Inglourious Basterds, Precious and Up In The Air leading the race with three nominations each.

4 Transference: Spoon

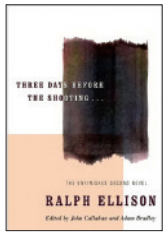


ALBUM They were listed as Metacritic's most acclaimed band of the decade. They even made it to the Top 10 with their last album, Ga Ga Ga Ga Ga. Heck, can you even call the Austin, Tex., band indie any more? But they might just reclaim their alt-rock status with their latest effort – an off-kilter take on their own perfect-pop template.

5 Creation

FILM You could go to theatres for Extraordinary Measures (if you are eyeing The Tooth Fairy there is little hope for you) this week. But you'd probably be better served with this little film about Charles Darwin and how his evolutionary ideas took their toll on his family. Starring real life husband and wife Paul Bettany and Jennifer Connelly.

6 Three Days Before The Shooting: Ralph Ellison



BOOK When the acclaimed African-American author (Invisible Man) died in 1994, he left behind a 2,000-page unfinished manuscript. The writing was condensed to 368 pages in 1999 for the posthumous novel, Juneteenth. Finally, Modern Library is putting things right by publishing the mammoth work in its entirety.

7 Dark Void

GAME The jetpack's alive and well. In Capcom's new sci-fi title, humans battle aliens in an alternate world with a little help from Nikola Tesla's uplifting invention. The game flies high on the strength of its aerial battles, which takes the find-cover-then-shoot style of Gears of War into the third dimension.

Author loses battle with cancer

OBIT Paul Quarrington, the multi-talented, award-winning Toronto author of Whale Music, has died. He was 56.

"He passed peacefully at home in Toronto in the early hours surrounded by friends and family," said a statement on his website. "It is comforting to know that he didn't suffer; he was calm and quiet holding hands with those who were closest to him."

Quarrington, who was diagnosed with an advanced form of lung cancer last year, maintained a wide-ranging creative career over the past decades as a playwright, musician, writer and filmmaker.

He achieved perhaps his greatest success as a novelist and author.

He won the Governor General's Literary Award for English-language fiction in 1989 for Whale Music, which Penthouse magazine called "the best novel written about rock 'n' roll" upon its release.

He also won the Stephen Leacock Award for humour and the Canada Reads competition for King Leary, and has twice been a finalist for the Trillium Book Award.

Writer Paul Quarrington.

Two of his more recent books — 2008's The Ravine and 2004's Galveston — were finalists for the Scotiabank Giller Prize.

Quarrington's work ranged from novels to non-fiction, with a wide array of subject matter. What was consistent, however, was his keen sense of humour, along with a focus early in his career on down-and-out protagonists who slowly begin reconnecting with the outside world.

A lover of sports and music, Quarrington wrote celebrated literature about topics that were otherwise not considered highbrow.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Mix of Six

Joni Mitchell's The Fiddle And The Drum

When: Friday to Sunday
Where: The Queen Elizabeth Theatre

The stunning performance by Alberta Ballet is accompanied by the music of Canadian songstress Joni Mitchell.

Lunar Fest

When: Until Feb. 28
Where: 700 block of Granville Street

Lanterns decorated by school children, aboriginal and professional artists will be on display on Granville Street.

Vancouver Motorcycle Show

When: Until Sunday
Where: Rexall Place

Various exhibitors, new models from most major motorcycle makers, stunt shows, autograph sessions and race demos are all part of this event. Tix: $5-$12.

Indie I Do

When: Saturday
Where: Heritage Hall, 3102 Main St.

Vancouver's alternative wedding show includes more than 30 designers, photographers, florists, wedding co-ordinators and more.

Cultural Olympiad

When: Until March 21
Where: Various venues

Featuring genre-bending theatre, dance, breathtaking visual and digital art.

Push International Performing Arts Festival

When: Ongoing
Where: Various venues

Features original works of art from acclaimed international and Canadian artists.

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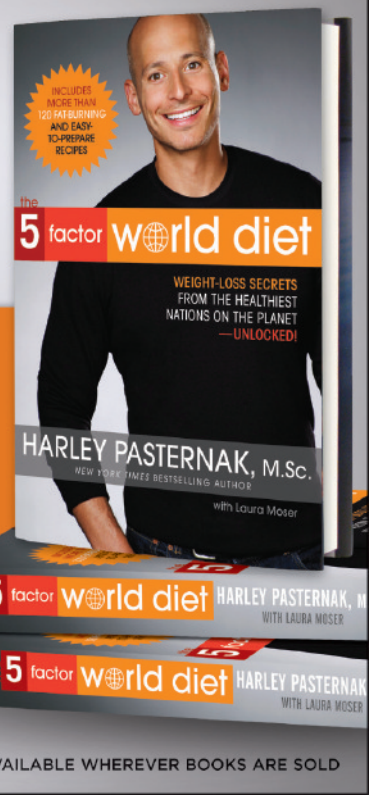

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A Baldwin in Manhattan
William Baldwin will play Blake Lively's estranged father on Gossip Girl. Baldwin, 46, will guest-star as William van der Woodsen beginning with an episode to air April 26. PEOPLE.COM.

Television

Sci-fi princess moves to Ancient Rome

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

Lucy Lawless is attracting a lot of attention for her latest character — not that the New Zealand actress isn't used to recognition.

As Xena: Warrior Princess, Lawless gained a surfeit of spirited sci-fi fans that adored the cult TV show for six years before following it as one of the sexy Cylons on Battlestar Galactica.

Now Lawless isn't just stirring the fantasies of fanboys worldwide — she's fulfilling them. In her provocative new gladiator series, Spartacus: Blood and Sand (premiering on The Movie Network and Movie Central this Monday), Lawless is just one of many characters that spends plenty of on-screen time shedding their togas.

Spartacus: Blood and Sand airs on Movie Central this Monday

"It's really kind of a spooky thing," laughed Lawless of the series' lack of dress. "The good news is that we have very sympathetic producers who work very hard to make us all look fantastic even (in high-definition). I mean nobody really looks good on HDTV past the age of nine.

"You get that big old pimple on your bottom, everybody's going to see it."

Lucky for the cast, Spartacus is a thrilling mix of gritty violence and graphic imagery to distract viewers from any blemished bodies.

In fact, with the world of gladiators largely produced in post-production, one might assume it a challenge for actors.

"We don't think about it at all; your imagination kind of fills in the blanks but its just gorgeous to see the finished product," said Lawless. "It's not like Avatar where the whole world is CGI.

Lucy Lawless as Lucretia in Spartacus: Blood and Sand.

"We have really big, practical sets that you can climb up and balconies — it's really solidly constructed — so it's not all imagined; not playing everything to a tennis ball on a stick like we used to in the old days."

No matter how it's put together, Spartacus seems destined to be Lawless' third sci-fi success. Starz, the series' U.S. distributor has even already ordered a second season.

It seems that in 2010, audiences are as fascinated by gladiators as ever.

"It satisfies some sort of blood lust we have," said Lawless of the series' timeliness.

"(Even) if you took away all the boobs and all the blood and all the special effects, it's just a thrill ride from start to finish."

Canadian Haiti benefit to run on Canuck super star power

BENEFIT Some of Canada's biggest stars including Celine Dion, James Cameron, Michael J. Fox and the Tragically Hip will be taking part in a multi-network benefit for Haiti Friday night.

CBC, CTV and Global Television will broadcast Canada for Haiti at 7 p.m. ET and PT.

Film stars who have signed on include Jason Reitman, Ryan Reynolds, William Shatner, Rachelle Lefevre, Joshua Jackson, Pamela Anderson, Eugene Levy, Norman Jewison, Tom Jackson, Will Arnett and Sandra Oh.

TV personalities Brent Butt, Hugh Dillon, Mike Holmes, Rick Mercer and Alex Trebek will appear.

Musicians Justin Bieber, Nelly Furtado, Sarah McLachlan, K'naan, Barenaked Ladies, Simple Plan, David Foster, Chantal Kreviazuk, Raine Maida and Measha Brueggergosman are on board.

Humanitarian Craig Kielburger and star athletes Wayne Gretzky and Steve Nash will participate, and Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Gov. Gen. Michaelle Jean will have special messages for Canadians.

George Stroumboulopoulos

The commercial-free show will be hosted by Cheryl Hickey, Ben Mulroney and George Stroumboulopoulos.

Donations collected during the broadcast will go to a number of non-profit organizations including the Canadian Red Cross Society, Care Canada, Free the Children, Oxfam Canada and UNICEF Canada.

Immediately following the show, the U.S. benefit Hope for Haiti Now will air on the same networks and on MTV, MuchMusic and National Geographic Channel.

The two-hour special will be hosted by George Clooney.

Keith Urban, Kid Rock and Sheryl Crow plan to perform a song together, as will Bono, the Edge, Jay-Z and Rihanna.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

More acts in U.S.

- Beyonce and Madonna have been added as performers taking part in Friday's multi-network Hope for Haiti Now telethon, and Denzel Washington, Brad Pitt, Leonardo DiCaprio and former president Bill Clinton are among the other participants.
- A statement released Thursday said Beyonce would perform from London, and Madonna from New York City.
- People can start donating even before the start of the 8 p.m. EST concert via phone and text.

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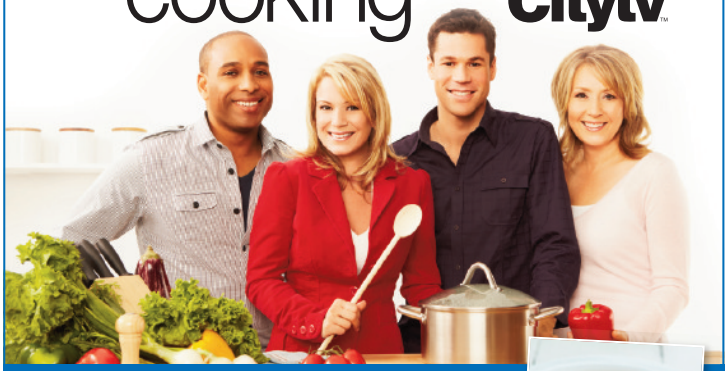

Zesty Shrimp and Pasta

PREP TIME: 10 MIN. ➤ TOTAL TIME: 25 MIN. ➤ MAKES: 6 SERVINGS

What You Need
300 g (1/3 of 900-g pkg.) linguine, uncooked
1/3 cup *Kraft Calorie-Wise Zesty Italian* Dressing, divided
2 cups sliced fresh mushrooms
1 small onion, thinly sliced
1 can (14 fl oz/398 mL) artichoke hearts, drained, quartered
1 lb. (450 g) uncooked deveined peeled large shrimp
1 Tbsp. chopped fresh parsley
1/4 cup *Kraft 100% Parmesan Light Grated Cheese*

Make it
COOK pasta in large saucepan as directed on package.
MEANWHILE, heat 1/4 cup dressing in large skillet on medium heat. Add mushrooms, onions and artichokes; cook 3 min. or until onions are crisp-tender, stirring occasionally. Stir in shrimp and parsley; cook 2 min. or until shrimp turn pink and vegetables are tender, stirring occasionally.
DRAIN pasta; return to pan. Add shrimp mixture and remaining dressing; toss lightly. Sprinkle with cheese.

See this recipe prepared in next week's show: Smart Supper (under 500 calories)

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Conan gets $45M to walk away

NBC said Thursday it has reached a $45 million US deal with Conan O'Brien for his exit from the Tonight show, allowing Jay Leno to return to the late-night program he hosted for 17 years.

Under the deal, which came seven months after O'Brien took the reins from Leno, O'Brien will get more than $33 million, NBC said. The rest will go to his 200-strong staff in severance, the network said in an announcement on the Today show.

His final show will be Friday, with Tom Hanks scheduled to appear as well as Will Ferrell — the first guest O'Brien welcomed as Tonight host last June — and musical guest Neil Young. Leno will return to Tonight on March 1.

"In the end, Conan was appreciative of the steps NBC made to take care of his staff and crew, and decided to supplement the severance they were getting out of his own pocket," his manager, Gavin Polone, told The Wall Street Journal. "Now he just wants to get back on the air as quickly as possible."

Conan O'Brien

O'Brien will be free to begin another TV job as soon as September, NBC said. There has been speculation on where he might go next. ABC (which airs Nightline and Jimmy Kimmel Live!) has said it wasn't interested, while Fox, which lacks a network late-night show, expressed appreciation for his show — but nothing more. Comedy Central has also been mentioned.

A spokesman for O'Brien said he would be unavailable for comment.

O'Brien landed the Tonight show after successfully hosting Late Night, which airs an hour later, since 1993. But he quickly stumbled in the ratings race against his CBS rival, David Letterman.

Under Leno, the Tonight show was the ratings champ at 11:35 p.m., but he proved an instant flop with his experiment in prime time. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRIDAY 1/22/10

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	251	308	3 CBC	Canada for Haiti (N) (CC)		Hope for Haiti Now Celebrities raise money for Haiti. (CC)				CBC News: The National (N)		The Hour (N)
	250	321	9 CTV	etalk (CC)	Access H.	Hope for Haiti Now Celebrities raise money for Haiti. (CC)				Flashpoint (CC) (DVS)		CTV News
	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Hope for Haiti Now Celebrities raise money for Haiti. (CC)				NUMB3RS "Devil Girl" (CC)		News
	256	389	12 VI	Degrassi	TMZ (N)	Law & Order (CC)		Law & Order: SVU		Comedy Now	Comedy Inc.	A News (N)
	253	359	13 CITY	Murdoch Mysteries		Supernanny (CC)		Mantracker "Dustin and Ian"		The Jay Leno Show (N)		The CityNews
	-	-	14 CW	The Office	The Office	Hope for Haiti Now Celebrities raise money for Haiti. (N)				Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Hope for Haiti Now Celebrities raise money for Haiti. (CC)				Medium "New Terrain"		KIRO 7 News
	287	379	16 NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	Hope for Haiti Now Celebrities raise money for Haiti. (CC)				The Jay Leno Show (N)		KING 5 News
	288	380	21 ABC	Wheel	Jeopardy! (N)	Hope for Haiti Now Celebrities raise money for Haiti. (CC)				20/20 (CC)		News
	290	382	23 FOX	Two Men	Two Men	Hope for Haiti Now Celebrities raise money for Haiti. (CC)				News	Most Wanted	Family Guy
news	502	390	23 NW	Mounties Under Fire (CC)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		Mounties Under Fire (CC)		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
family sports	407	419	22 RSP	Alpine Skiing		Hockey	The Ultimate Fighter		MMA Conn	Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	(6:30) Tennis Australian Open, Third Round. From Melbourne, Australia. (Live)						SportsCentre (Live) (CC)		SportsCentre
	552	543	25 YTV	Alice, Upside Down (2007, Comedy) Alyson Stoner. (CC)				That's-Weird	Fries That?	Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol
	555	545	50 TEL	Batman	Wolverine	Justice	Star Wars	Futurama	King of Hill	X-Men ★★★ (2000) Hugh Jackman. (CC)		
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	The Fraser River Journey (N)		Poirot "One, Two, Buckle My Shoe" (N) (CC)				If Only I Were an Indian ... ★★ (1995) (CC)		
	575	583	20 CMT	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	CMT Greatest: Sexy Videos		Funniest Home Videos		Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Acc'ding/Jim
	615	520	31 A&E	Criminal Minds (CC)		Criminal Minds "The Tribe"		(:01) Criminal Minds (CC)		(:01) Criminal Minds (CC)		Criminal
	521	560	34 TLC	Dress	Dress	What Not to Wear (CC)		Dress	Dress	What Not to Wear "Teresa"		What Not
	616	522	33 SHO	Relic Hunter (CC)		Destination: Infestation (2007) Antonio Sabato Jr. (CC)				Kenny vs.	Kenny	Trailer Park
	294	650	57 TBS	Runaway Bride ★★ (1999) Julia Roberts, Richard Gere. (CC)						(:40) I Am Sam ★★ (2001, Drama) Sean Penn. (CC)		
	603	561	69 FN	Diners	Diners	Ramsay's Kitchen		Diners	Unwrapped	Bobby Flay	Bobby Flay	Diners
	-	-	35 AMC	Pitch Black	Aliens ★★★★ (1986, Science Fiction) Sigourney Weaver, Carrie Henn. (CC)						Alien 3 ★★★ (1992) (CC)	
	320	621	30 CEN	(6:25) Shred 2 (2009) (CC)		Che ★★★ (2008) (Part 2 of 2) Benicio Del Toro.				(:15) The Informers ★ (2009) (CC)		
	581	566	101 MTV	Teen Mom (CC)		1 girl 5 gays	After	Buried	Life of Ryan	Teen Mom (CC)		After

SATURDAY 1/23/10

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	251	308	3 CBC	NHL Hockey Chicago Blackhawks at Vancouver Canucks. (Live) (CC)					HNIC: After Hours		News	HNIC Replay
	250	321	9 CTV	W5 (CC) (DVS)		CSI: Crime Scene		Criminal Minds "Haunted"		CSI: NY (CC)		CTV News
	252	336	11 GTV	renegade	Jane Show	16th Annual Screen Actors Guild Awards (Same-day Tape)				The Guard "Full Circle"		News Final
	256	389	12 VI	New Canoe	Island Week	Kool Countdown (CC)		The Road to Avonlea		Stargate Atlantis "Sateda"		Bravo!FACT
	253	359	13 CITY	Cooking	Amazing	Glenn Martin	Out There	Emile ★★ (2003, Drama) Ian McKellen. (CC) (DVS)				Amazing
	-	-	14 CW	The Office	The Office	Unfaithful ★★★ (2002, Drama) Richard Gere, Diane Lane.					CSI: NY "Obsession" (CC)	
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment Tonight (N)		CSI: Crime Scene		Criminal Minds "Haunted"		48 Hours Mystery (N) (CC)		KIRO 7 News
	287	379	16 NBC	Backroads	Inside Edition	Mercy "We're All Adults"		Figure Skating U.S. Championships: Ladies Free Skate.				KING 5 News
	288	380	21 ABC	Fortune	Jeopardy!	Grey's Anatomy (CC)		The Deep End "Pilot" (CC)		Castle (CC)		News
	290	382	23 FOX	Two Men	Two Men	Cops (N) (PA)	Cops (CC)	America's Most Wanted		News	Most Wanted	Wanda Sykes
news	502	390	23 NW	Secret World of Shoplifting		National	Issue	National	Mansbridge	Secret World of Shoplifting		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Newsroom		Campbell Brown		Larry King Live		Newsroom		Newsroom
family sports	407	419	22 RSP	Top 50	Poker After Dark (CC)		MMA Conn	The Ultimate Fighter		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Poker
	400	400	30 TSN	Tennis Australian Open, Round of 16. From Melbourne, Australia. (Live)						SportsCentre (Live) (CC)		SportsCentre
	552	543	25 YTV	Zeke's Pad	Prank Patrol	Funniest Home Videos		That's-Weird	Prank Patrol	Survive This	Ghost	Adrenaline
	555	545	50 TEL	Chicken Run ★★★ (2000, Comedy) Voices of Mel Gibson.				Futurama	King of Hill	Chicken	Venture Bros.	Moral Orel
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Alaska's Black Gold (CC)		Heartbeat "Cashing In"		Midsomer Murders "Hidden Depths" (CC)				If Only
	575	583	20 CMT	Invitation Only (N)		Gypsy Boots	Clark: One on	Gone Country	Gone Country	Invitation Only		Invitation
	615	520	31 A&E	(5:00) The Green Mile (1999)		Seagal	Seagal	(:01) The Green Mile ★★★ (1999, Drama) Tom Hanks, David Morse. (CC)				
	521	560	34 TLC	48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours
	616	522	33 SHO	Slings and Arrows (CC)		NYC: Tornado Terror (2008) Nicole de Boer. (CC)				Spider-Man 3 ★★ (2007) Tobey Maguire.		
	294	650	57 TBS	Meet the Parents ★★★ (2000) Robert De Niro, Ben Stiller.				Freaky Friday ★★★ (2003, Comedy) Jamie Lee Curtis.				George
	603	561	69 FN	Top Chef Masters (CC)		The F Word (CC)		Hugh's Chicken Run (CC)		Chopped (CC)		Top Chef
	-	-	35 AMC	(5:00) The Matrix ★★★		The Matrix ★★★ (1999, Science Fiction) Keanu Reeves, Laurence Fishburne. (CC)						Modesty
	320	621	30 CEN	(6:25) Night Train (2009)		Crank: High Voltage ★ (2009) Premiere.				(:45) Death Race ★★ (2008, Action) Jason Statham.		
	581	566	101 MTV	MTV Live	Movie Night	After	1 girl 5 gays	Over Bolts	Peak Season	Peak Season	Peak Season	1 girl 5 gays

SUNDAY 1/24/10

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	251	308	3 CBC	Heartland "Quarantine" (N)		Test the Nation: IQ 2010 (N) (CC) (DVS)				CBC News: The National		News
	250	321	9 CTV	CTV News (N) (CC)		Two Men	Big Bang	Flashpoint (CC)		CSI: Miami "Bolt Action"		CTV News
	252	336	11 GTV	16:9 Picture	Family	The Da Vinci Code ★★ (2006, Mystery) Tom Hanks, Audrey Tautou. Premiere. (CC)						News Final
	256	389	12 VI	TMZ (CC)		Sweet Home Alabama ★★ (2002) Reese Witherspoon.				Nip/Tuck "Briggitte Reinholt"		New Canoe
	253	359	13 CITY	Chuck (N) (CC)		Extreme Makeover: Home Edition "Powell Family" (N)				Murdoch Mysteries		Amazing
	-	-	14 CW	Boston Legal "Gone" (CC)		CSI: Miami "Deep Freeze"		CSI: NY "The Lying Game"		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	60 Minutes (N) (CC)		CSI: NY (CC)		Cold Case "Jurisprudence"		CSI: Miami "Bolt Action"		KIRO 7 News
	287	379	16 NBC	Dateline NBC (CC)				Figure Skating Countdown to Vancouver. (Same-day Tape)				KING 5 News
	288	380	21 ABC	Funniest Home Videos		Extreme Makeover: Home Edition "Powell Family" (N)				Desperate Housewives		News
	290	382	23 FOX	Postgame	Most Wanted	Simpsons	Simpsons	Family Guy	Family Guy	News	Sports	House (CC)
news	502	390	23 NW	Which Way Home (2009, Documentary)			Mansbridge	CBC News: The National (N)		Which Way Home (2009, Documentary)		
	500	500	33 CNN	Newsroom		State of the Union		Larry King Live		State of the Union		State/Union
family sports	407	419	22 RSP	Alpine Skiing		Saturday Night Poker		The Ultimate Fighter		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	Curling		SportsCentre (Live) (CC)		NFL	Motoring	SnowTrax	Planet Speed	SportsCentre
	552	543	25 YTV	(6:00) Snow Day ★★ (2000)		Prank Patrol	Family Biz	Fries That?	Fries That?	Survive This	Ghost	Adrenaline
	555	545	50 TEL	Stoked	Total Drama	Majority	6TEEN	Futurama	King of Hill	Chicken	Futurama	Tripping the
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	National Geographic		The Royal A rich playboy. (N)		Prime Suspect (N) (Part 1 of 2) (CC)				Beautiful
	575	583	20 CMT	CMT Live at the Orange Lounge			Dierks	Funniest Home Videos		Shaye: This Is It		CMT Live
	615	520	31 A&E	Criminal Minds "Machismo"		Criminal Minds (CC)		(:01) Criminal Minds (CC)		(:01) Criminal Minds (CC)		Criminal
	521	560	34 TLC	Twins: What Never Knew		World's Strongest Toddler		The Tiniest Girl in the World		Twins: What Never Knew		Children
	616	522	33 SHO	Cra$h & Burn "Jump" (CC)		Storm Cell (2008) Mimi Rogers, Elyse Levesque. (CC)				Live Free or Die Hard ★★★ (2007) (CC)		
	294	650	57 TBS	(:12) The School of Rock ★★★ (2003) Jack Black, Joan Cusack. (CC)				(:42) The Nutty Professor ★★★ (1996) Eddie Murphy.				
	603	561	69 FN	Dinner: Impossible (CC)		Restaurant Makeover (CC)		Jamie's Ministry of Food		Iron Chef America (CC)		Dinner
	-	-	35 AMC	(5:00) Space Cowboys (2000)		Space Cowboys ★★★ (2000, Adventure) Clint Eastwood, Tommy Lee Jones.						Blazing
	320	621	30 CEN	(6:30) Prom Night ★★ (CC)		Quantum of Solace ★★ (2008, Action)				(:45) Baby Mama ★★ (2008) Tina Fey, Amy Poehler. (CC)		
	581	566	101 MTV	Peak Season	Peak Season	1 girl 5 gays	Over Bolts	After	Cribs (CC)	Cribs (CC)	Cribs (CC)	1 girl 5 gays

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WEEKLY REWARDS

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Girls are great, but boys are better

Ben Affleck is begging wife Jennifer Garner to get pregnant one more time, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The couple has two daughters, and Affleck is keen for a baby boy to complete the trio. **METRO WORLD NEWS**

Celebrity Buzz

Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

CelebTweets

RUSSELL BRAND wrestles with a moral quandary, **DANE COOK** has a confession to make, and **"WEIRD" AL YANKOVIC** solves the mystery of Jay Leno's poor performance.

@rustyrockets If I force my cat to have sex with another cat am I an accomplice to rape? If so where does this leave dog-breeders?

@danecook I never took steroids but @ the height of my wiffle ball career I drank a Jolt cola & downed a fun dip 2 give me a lil edge up.

@alyankovic Ah, I get it now. Jay's been doing a 5-year-long Andy Kaufman-esque prank. Hilarious!

METRO WORLD NEWS

Not a slice, but a scar

WHAT SORT OF SURGERIES DO YOU HAVE FOR INJURIES OF THE INNER ARM? Lindsay Lohan has dismissed allegations she has been self-harming to cope with spiralling depression, insisting she is in a "wonderful place mentally, physically and spiritually," femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Mean Girls star sparked fears for her health after she was photographed with a red scratch on her inner arm earlier this month. But she insists the mark is years old — and she's urging internet bloggers to stop speculating about her personal life because she's never been happier.

She tells gossip website PerezHilton.com, "I've had that scar on my arm for a very long time now — it's funny it's just being noticed.

"I had surgery a while ago for an injury I had when I was younger, nothing having to do with depression or anything of the sort. Now back off, people! There are more important world issues to focus on!"

The star, who split from her on-and-off-again girlfriend Samantha Ronson last year, was photographed embracing the 29-year-old during an event at L.A. fashion boutique Church in West Hollywood on Monday night.

METRO WORLD NEWS

From alleged assault to hospital-bed hand holding

WHAT'S THAT I HEAR? OH, IT'S A QUICK CHANGE OF TUNE Charlie Sheen has been allowed to visit his wife while she is in hospital with pneumonia, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

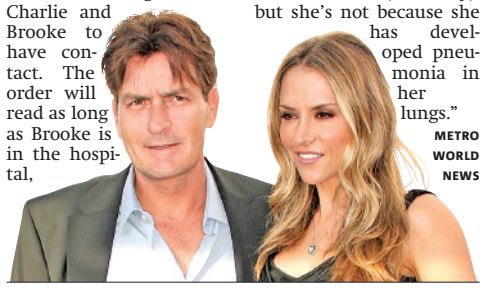
The actor's restraining order — which was put in place following his alleged assault on Brooke Mueller on Christmas Day — was altered by Pitkin County District Judge James Boyd to allow him to visit his spouse while she is being treated at Los Angeles' Sherman Oaks Hospital.

Mueller's lawyer Yale Galanter — who confirmed the emergency ruling had been passed — said, "The judge did sign an order allowing Charlie and Brooke to have contact. The order will read as long as Brooke is in the hospital, Charlie can see her."

The changes were made after his 32-year-old wife — who he has 10-month-old twin sons Bob and Max with — fell seriously ill yesterday.

Her mother Moira Fiore explained to E! News, "Brooke had to have emergency surgery to have her wisdom tooth extracted. It became infected. The infection spread and now she has pneumonia in both lungs."

Brooke was admitted to the medical centre after suffering from a fever of 105 degrees. Her attorney said, "Brooke is still in the hospital. She's doing OK but she's not doing great. We thought there was a possibility she was going to be released (Thursday), but she's not because she has developed pneumonia in her lungs."



METRO WORLD NEWS

This is Mischa Barton's brain ...

THIS IS MISCHA BARTON'S BRAIN NOT ON DRUGS Mischa Barton is returning to television — for one episode, at least — with a guest spot on Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. But the former O.C. star is reportedly making life difficult for her new co-workers.

Sources tell Radar Online that Barton couldn't get any of her lines memorized, forcing the crew to spend all day on her scene. "She only had seven lines, seven!" a source says.

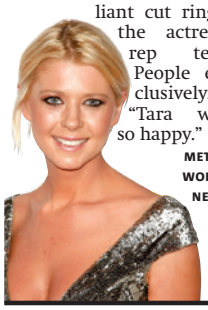
"Each time she would mess up, she would forget her lines and Mariska (Hargitay) kept prompting her and saying, 'It's your line, Mischa.'"

METRO WORLD NEWS

'Tara was so happy'

ALTHOUGH YOU COULDN'T REALLY TELL BY LOOKING AT HER FACE Tara Reid and boyfriend Michael Axtmann, 34, were having dinner in Los Angeles on Monday night when Axtmann asked for something not on the menu, Reid's hand in marriage, people.com reports.

"Michael surprised Tara with a beautiful round brilliant cut ring," the actress' rep tells People exclusively. "Tara was so happy."



METRO WORLD NEWS

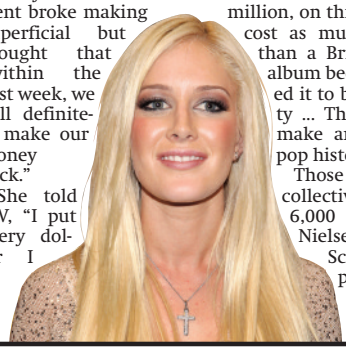
Her new album is called Superficial

ART IMITATING LIFE? LIFE IMITATING ART? ART? LIFE? WHAT AM I SAYING? Heidi Montag's debut album may have set a record — just not a good one, usmagazine.com reports. In its first week of release, The Hills star's album, Superficial, has sold less than 1,000 copies, according to Nielsen Soundscan.

In fact, industry sources tell usmagazine.com that the album has sold only 658 downloads to date.

This is likely upsetting news for the reality star, who told Entertainment Weekly last week that she went broke making Superficial but thought that "within the first week, we will definitely make our money back."

She told EW, "I put every dollar I have into this. I've spent over $1 million, almost $2 million, on this album. It's cost as much or more than a Britney Spears album because I wanted it to be that quality ... The songs will make an impact in pop history."



Those songs have collectively sold 6,000 downloads, Nielsen SoundScan also reports.

METRO WORLD NEWS

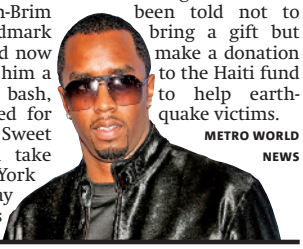
Pampering mini P. Diddy

LUCKILY, HE'S HAVING A NORMAL CHILDHOOD P. Diddy is hosting a Prince of New York-theme 16th birthday party for his son, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The rap superstar's son Justin — his child with his high school sweetheart, designer Misa Hylton-Brim — reached the landmark age in December and now Diddy is organizing him a special star-studded bash, which will be filmed for MTV show My Super Sweet 16. The party will take place at a New York nightclub on Saturday night and Chris Brown will be performing.

A source told the New York Post newspaper, "The club will be decorated with images from the New York skyline. "Diddy will perform with his band, Diddy-Dirty Money."

The A-List guest list have been told not to bring a gift but make a donation to the Haiti fund to help earthquake victims.



METRO WORLD NEWS

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Sunday Showers 40% 8°/6°
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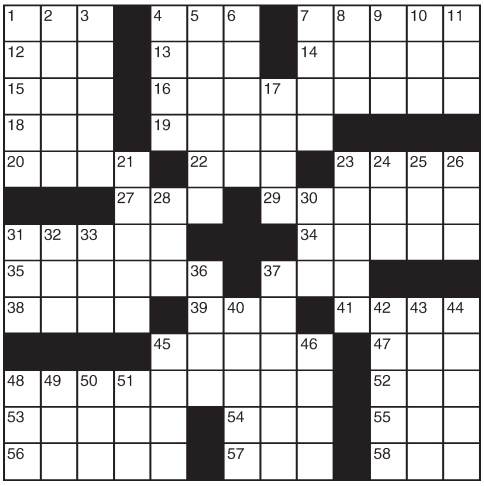
Take Five



ACROSS

1 Scenery chewer
4 Resort
7 Wimbledon surface
12 Chicken-king link
13 Stolen
14 Proportion
15 Old soldier
16 Henny Youngman's repertoire
18 Make up your mind
19 Hatred
20 Bistro name starter, often
22 Type measures
23 Movie pig
27 "— Town"
29 Cheap
31 Track legend Jesse
34 Sports venue
35 Requiring bi-colored glasses
37 "CSI" evidence
38 Fly catcher?
39 — Today
41 Opening day?
45 Memorable mission
47 Illustrations
48 Bluff
52 Dove's call
53 Bring the meal
54 Funnyman DeLuise
55 Pump up the volume
56 Words to live by
57 Officeholders
58 Existed

DOWN

1 Devastation
2 Hebrew letter
3 Photo finish
4 "Get outta here!"
5 Mull over
6 Had a home-cooked meal
7 Somber
8 Operated
9 Goddess of foolhardiness
10 Madam's counterpart
11 "Mayday!"
17 A deadly sin
21 Like urban land
23 Powdered cleaning agent
24 Copper head?
25 Crib
26 Timetable abbr.
28 Work with
30 Ashen
31 Mel of Cooperstown
32 Personal question?
33 Historic time
36 Lackluster
37 Variety of plum
40 Riyadh resident
42 Showy parrot
43 Bakery lure
44 Subway stations
45 Kind of hairdo
46 Resistance units
48 Radio watchdog org.
49 Rowing need
50 Salt Lake City athlete
51 Scarlet

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

5	2						9	7
			5		8			
6		8				1		5
		4	6		3	9		
	3						6	
		2	9		4	7		
2		9				6		4
			8		1			
8	5						1	9

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

2	4	1	5	7	9	8	3	6
7	6	9	2	8	3	4	5	1
3	8	5	4	1	6	2	7	9
8	9	4	1	2	7	5	6	3
6	3	7	8	9	5	1	4	2
5	1	2	6	3	4	7	9	8
9	2	3	7	4	1	6	8	5
4	5	8	9	6	2	3	1	7
1	7	6	3	5	8	9	2	4

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day

Thai Pork Patties with Bok Choy

INGREDIENTS:

4 scallions, finely chopped
1 lb (500 g) lean ground pork
1 1/2 tsp (7 ml) Thai green curry paste
2 tsp (10 mL) lemon grass in oil
1 egg white
2 tbsp (25 mL) Canola oil
7 oz (200 g) bok choy, sliced lengthwise
6 oz (175 g) oyster mushrooms, sliced
3/4 cup (175 ml) coconut milk
1 tsp (5 ml) fish sauce
1 tbsp (15 ml) sesame seeds

METHOD:

1. Mix scallions, pork, curry paste, lemon grass and egg white until evenly bound together, pressing mixture firmly with back of mixing spoon.
2. Divide mixture into 12, then shape into patties, flattening with your fingers.
3. Heat 1 tbsp (15 mLl oil in heavy-based frying pan and fry patties, turning once, 8-10 minutes or until golden brown and thoroughly cooked.
4. While patties are frying, heat a wide frying pan or wok with remaining oil and add bok choy and mushrooms. Stir-fry over high heat 2-3 minutes to soften.
5. Stir coconut milk and fish sauce into vegetables, bring to boil; simmer 1 minute. Serve pork patties with bok choy and coconut mixture, sprinkled with sesame seeds.

SERVES 4

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Sometimes you don't tell loved ones how much they mean to you as often as you should but you'll make up for it today.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
You must be extra careful what you allow yourself to think over the next 24 hours because your imagination is very powerful at the moment.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
You can ask almost anything of anyone today and it won't be refused. It will be easy for you to persuade friends and rivals to give you what you need.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
There are some strong emotions about at the moment and if you are not careful you could get swept away on a tide of excess sentiment.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
You will say or do something outrageous today — and you will get away with it. You will manage, just, to keep this side of turning people against you.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
The only danger today is that you will allow someone to persuade you to buy something that you cannot really afford.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
No effort will be too much for you over the next few days. It does not matter how lofty your goal may be you will reach it with ease.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
You will know instinctively if what you are being told is the truth or a fabrication — and you won't hesitate to cut a deceiver out of your life.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
Someone needs your help and is silently pleading for you to step in and rescue them. You won't let them down.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
You will get the chance to make some powerful new friends today and over the weekend, and you are not the sort to turn down an opportunity like that.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
So many things will go right today it's almost as if you have someone "up there" on your side making sure everything falls into place.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
There is every possibility that you will be lucky financially today. Most likely an investment you made a long time ago will pay off at last.

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New York	from $419 + taxes & fees $143
Beijing	from $559 + taxes & fees $345
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USA Vacations

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Air + 4 Nights
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+ taxes & fees $104

INCLUDES accom on the Strip. UPGRADE to 5-star accom from $20 per night.

San Francisco Air + 3 Nights from $299 + taxes & fees $102
ADD San Francisco City Tour from $49.

California Coast Air + Car from $349 + taxes & fees $108
INCLUDES air into San Francisco, return from Los Angeles and 7-day car rental. UPGRADE to convertible car from $13 per day.

Phoenix Weekend
Air + 3 Nights 5-Star Fairmont from $429 + taxes & fees $106
ADD roundtrip transfers from $40.

New York City Air + 3 Nights from $759 + taxes & fees $129
ADD harbour lights cruise from $29.

Valentine's Vacations

Niagara Falls
Valentine's Day Weekend
Air + 2 Nights + Car
from $569
+ taxes & fees $117
INCLUDES car rental from Toronto and Niagara Falls accom during Valentine's Day weekend.

Lake Louise Valentine's Day Weekend
Fairmont 2 Nights from $359 taxes & fees included
INCLUDES accom at the famous Fairmont Chateau.

Banff Valentine's Day Weekend
Air + 3 Nights from $469 taxes & fees included
INCLUDES air to Calgary and central Banff accom within walking distance to shops, dining and entertainment.

New York Valentine's Day Weekend
Air + 3 Nights from $649 + taxes & fees $113
INCLUDES Manhattan accom.

Adventure Tour

Thailand Sailing Adventure
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HIGHLIGHTS Koh Ping Kan, Gypsy Sea Village, Koh Yao Noi, Maya Bay, Koh Phi Phi Islands, Phang Nga Bay, Bay Hai Harn, Koh Yao Yai. Roundtrip Phuket.

February Escapes!

February Vacations

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7 Nights 3.5-Star All-inclusive
from $835
+ taxes & fees $280

Big White Ski Package
4 Nights + Lift Passes from $499 + taxes & fees $56
INCLUDES central village accom and 3-day lift pass to ski Big White. ADD ski or snowboard equipment rentals from $30.

Puerto Vallarta 7 Nights
3.5-Star All-inclusive from $776 + taxes & fees $264

Rocky Mountains
Air + 5 Nights + Lift Passes from $799 + taxes & fees $98
INCLUDES air to Calgary, central accom and 4-day lift pass for skiing at Banff, Lake Louise & Sunshine. ADD snowmobile tour from Banff from $289.

Dominican Republic 7 Nights
4-Star All-inclusive from $894 + taxes & fees $311

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Punta Cana 7 Nights 4-Star
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Mayan Riviera 7 Nights 4-Star
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Air + 7 Nights
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Maui Family Special
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All-inclusive Vacations

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7 Nights 4-Star
from $597
+ taxes & fees $196

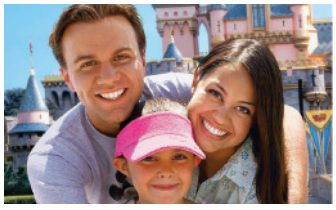
Puerto Vallarta
7 Nights 3-Star from $497 + taxes & fees $264
UPGRADE to 4-star accom from $7 per night.

Mayan Riviera
8 Nights 3.5-Star from $675 + taxes & fees $280
UPGRADE to 4-star accom from $28 per night.

Cancun 7 Nights 4-Star from $725 + taxes & fees $280

Panama 7 Nights 4-Star from $797 + taxes & fees $234

Cruise Vacations



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CRUISE roundtrip San Juan and visit Aruba, Curacao, Dominica & St Thomas.

St Patrick's Day Vacation

Dublin St Patrick's Day
Air + 6 Nights
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